

GetAmped2 - Lunar Antics

by LaurieMoon

Category: Misc. Games

Genre: Adventure, Humor

Language: English

Status: In-Progress

Published: 2016-04-08 22:50:12

Updated: 2016-04-19 02:52:12

Packaged: 2016-04-27 20:36:31

Rating: K+

Chapters: 19

Words: 22,615

Publisher: www.fanfiction.net

Summary: Set in Cyberstep's Online Fighting game "GetAmped2" and based in the floating city of Wingdom "Lunar Antics" follows the adventures of one guild 'Lunar' and their day to day lives. Taking on Missions in co-operation with the Megaforce, battling for fun or just hanging out with friends; Lunar Antics takes a very different tone in self-contained chapters or short story-arcs!

1. Guild Grocery Shopping

Lunar Antics Chapter 1

>By LaurieMoon<p>

'Shit' thought Jordan aloud. 'What the hell was I supposed to be doing..?' It was a rainy morning outside and Jordan had drawn the short straw and been delegated shopping duty " with the Prime Market as Wingdom's only store where else could he go. Jordan stared blankly at the aisle, unable to remember a single thing of what the Guildies wanted. Then it all came flooding back with resonating shouts he had heard earlier on

>'Chicken nuggies!' cried Kazeru,
'Apples, APPLES.' screamed Laurie while throttling Jordan by the shoulders.

>'I will require another box of your finest cereal Sir Jordan, post-haste.' enquired Renshin trying to keep a genteel image despite cereal crumbs across his chest and some minor milk spillage leaking down to his crotch.<p>

Jordan began regretting coming into the market without a basket as he needed a fair amount, not to mention the rest of the guild's supplies. Suddenly one dangled down right in front of him held up by none other than the much taller, older and wiser Shot. Best Friend Shot had come to save the day!

>'Don't go thinking I'm your best friend or anything for coming to help you out' said Shot smugly. Jordan thanked Regular Friend Shot and took the basket from him
'What else do we need? It's all a blur to me as far as I can remember' said Jordan.

>'I remember something Original said about mass-gain supplements so

he could gain more muscle' said Shot 'but knowing him that will backfireâ€|and Keshir-I mean, KENshiro wanted Speckled Glowfire Cakes..?'
'Speckled CRYSTALfire Cakes' corrected Kenshiro who had just swooped in with his massive wings.
>'What is that anyway? Asked Jordan 'I don't think they stock it hereâ€|'
'It is a Dragonkind Delicacy' stated Kenshiro 'You don't need to know what it is or concern yourself with it.'
>'Well you're the one who wanted itâ€|' muttered Shot
'I came here to tell you not to get it, although it looks like you both haven't started getting anything.'
>'It's not our fault everyone shouted what they wanted at once!' interjected Jordan.
'But it is your fault you didn't make a shopping list.' Replied Kenshiro pulling out a piece of paper.

>'Ooo! Gimmie!' cried Jordan
'You guys call yourselves Luminaries?' asked Kenshiro
>'Oh yeah, well what about you Ken, not helping fellow guildies out, huh?!' said Shot snatching the shopping list from Kenshiro.
'I amâ€|' said Kenshiro 'but we're not the only ones doing the grovery shopping.' Shot and Jordan's eyes widened upon hearing this. 'Laurie sent out another group of three to do the shopping and me and Shot were send to help you.'
>'Uuh..Oh yeah.' Said Shot in realisation 'It was Laurie who sent me here.' Kenshiro facepalmed and continued on through his hand
'The last group to bring food supplies back will lose their favourite food from the selection for the next month.'
>'Not my biscuits!' shouted Jordan
'My pizza slices too!?' chimed in Shot
>'and no Speckled Crystalfire Cakes for me, however, that is no longer part of the list as you can't get it here.'
'Wait!' cried Jordan 'Does the other group know that those have been removed?'

>'Noooâ€|' replied Kenshiro
'We should hurry and get the last item then!' cried Shot inspecting the list
>'Yes, I took the courtesy of gathering most of what we need before I got here.' said Kenshiro to the puzzled-looking Jordan. Jordan peered behind Kenshiro's wings and noticed an almost full basket of groceries.
'Oh wow, good job Ken.' Said Jordan bitterly as he cast aside his empty basket.
>'The last thing on the list isâ€|Oh Kenshiro! You like to eat this as well don't you?!'
'No Shot.. I don't eat that.' Said Kenshiro.

>'Well! Not all the time, but you're a wolf so-'
'-No I'm a dragon, Shot.' Jordan glanced over at the shopping list and could see the only text not crossed out reading "dog food"
>'That's probably for SpotPup' said Jordan between laughter.
'Then this isn't good; Spotpup is on the other team' said Kenshiro 'So he knows exactly where it is and must already have it â€" their team is three and I was gathering all of these alone until now; Speckled Crystalfire cakes is the last thing on the list and once they know that they don't actually need it anymore they'll be ready to finish andâ€|' Kenshiro spun around suddenly coming eye-to-eye with Skepy standing with one leg raised, mid-walk to the end of the aisle. Immobilized the three watch Skepy process what had just been said.

>'I'm telling.' Whispered Skepy before sprinting out of view
'He's on the other team! Don't let him report to the others!' screamed Shot. 'Jordan! Go and get the dog food, we'll handle Skepy!'
>'Aw, but I wanna lvl Skepy.' Groaned Jordan
'There's no time Jordan! Listen to Shot!' shouted Kenshiro. Jordan ambled off dragging

his feet along the floor while Shot and Kenshiro hurried off to gain chase.

With a swift nod Jordan took the basket and ran off in the other direction while Kenshiro and Shot gave pursuit to Skepy. Passing through the toiletries aisle Kenshiro exploded with a puff of black smoke and was suddenly armed with the Yatagarasu Crow attire 'I'll fly on ahead and grapple him, then you can take him down!' With Shot keeping up with Skepy and Kenshiro now accelerating beyond both of them Skepy looked behind him the moment Kenshiro soared down and tackled him in place. 'Okay Shot, now!' Shot skidded to a halt and busting out his Combat Operations Radiotransmitter cried 'Gillman! Now!' Out of nowhere Gillman buzzed over in a gigantic helicopter with a content expression on his face and without warning or any sense of direction began firing endlessly. Bullets rained down on Kenshiro and Skepy who flailed backward in a fiery inferno and lay unconscious.

>'Uuuh, oops.' Said Shot aware of his mistake. Meanwhile Gillman flew off waving and showing his teeth in a poor attempt at a smile to Shot, believing he had succeeded in doing what he was supposed to do.<p>

Several aisles smashed along, finally knocking Shot over hard on to the floor. Jordan who had found Spot eating endless quantities of dog food had begun fighting when Spot refused to share any to be brought back to the guild room for eating later.

>'The food is for YOU anyway!' pleaded Jordan emerging from the piles of torn toilet paper.
'That's not the point! I'm hungry nowwwwww' moaning Spot

>'HOW DARE YOU!' with an almighty chop to the neck Spot fell and was unconscious; Moko stood behind him as he fell to the floor 'Kathy will be furious to see what you've done to her precious Prime Market!' Moko turned around and noticed Jordan in shock 'He was my teammate, but this makes it better now don't you think? A lvl Finale?'
'I actually wanted to lvl with Skepy thoughâ€|' replied Jordan sadly.

>'WELL TOO BAD! Let's go!'
'STOOOOOOPPPPP.' Moko and Jordan turned around whilst an apple crunch could be heard along with a spoon hitting china and crispy mouthfuls of golden batter. LaurieMoon, Renshin and Kazeru stood at one of the checkouts at the very end of the story, Kazeru and Renshin with full baskets in hand.

>'Wait! My basket!' Cried Moko. Sure enough he and Jordan hadn't realised their own food baskets had been taken from under their noses.
'The reason I had you guys compete was so I could get the guild food quicker â€" and also so we could have double quantities for everyone!' grinned Laurie as if proclaiming an announcement to a loving audience â€" however only Moko and Jordan watched while Spot and Shot lay unconscious amidst the toilet paper and Kenshiro and Skepy burnt to a crisp.

>'That's a horrible thing to do!' yelled Jordan 'You made us fight each other, Kenshiro said you wouldn't give any food to the losing team for the next month!'
'Hahaha, of course I said that, I wanted you to work harder!' chortled Laurie 'Speaking of Kenshiro, I actually have some special order of Speckled Crystalfire cakes to give to him? Where is he?'

>'More on topicâ€|' said Moko 'You can't pit us together and get away with it.'
'Unless I get to lvl Skepy.' said Jordan 'If I get to fight him I'll be okay with this whole-'

>'Jordan! Just, shooshâ€|Laurie, you won't get away with this.'
'What's the problem,' replied Laurie 'we all have out food,

no one will miss out for a month, in fact we have double food now I might add.'

>'This isn't about US or OUR food. Our actions orchestrated by you have destroyed Kathy's Prime Market and she's going to be quite upset.' Renshin and Kazeru looked at one another and shivered.
'Is Kathy really that scary?' said Jordan noticing the two.

>'Yes shit is' said Moko
'No, she isn'tâ€|' butted in Laurie
'Kathy will shout at you, sure. But that's nothing compared toâ€|'

>'Everyone knows who Laurie fears most.' Said Kazeru 'Kathy can be quite scary when she's mad but she has nothing on the one who is obsessed with the Prime Market most of all.' Suddenly the ground beneath the group's feet tremored and as gravity had divided into itself the group's legs buckled and seized up.
'Oh god, he's seen what we've done!' squealed Laurie. The massive uncharacterised eyes leered on all of them 'Prudent Customer is upon us!' The Prime Market's most invested customer and loyal enthusiast had seen the destruction of the Prime Market made by Lunar's members.

>'We've gotta go guys, WE'VE GOTTA GO.' Screamed Renshin. Jordan fell to his knees under the pressure of the customer's gaze as he advanced slowly upon them, fuming with rage, teeth clenched and foaming around the mouth. While everyone fell closer and closer to the ground Jordan quickly glimpsed at hope â€" Shot's Combat Operation Radio transmitter. Stretched his arm out as forcefully he could against the gravity shift Jordan gripped down tightly on to the communicating button and without pulling the device closer to his head screamed;
'HELP US GILLMAN.' Completely unaffected by the gravity influx Gillman plunged down from the Helicopter and threw down several ropes connected to the ship. Managing to shuffle aside slightly, Jordan, Moko, Laurie, Renshin and Kazeru quickly held on to the hands of those who were unconscious and reclaimed the baskets of food then grabbed hold of the ropes from the Helicopter. As the helicopter began to ascend the effects of the customer's gravity reduction began to wear off and the group started to feel like they were literally flying through the air. Laurie looked down and blew a raspberry at the Prudent Customer but quickly didn't look so tough when he was squeeling at having toilet paper thrown up towards him by the continually raging customer.

>'Woohoooooooo! We escaped from that customer!' cheered Kazeru who dangled around dangerously from underneath the Helicopter
'Hurry up and climb inside Kazeru, it's not safe!' called Laurie who along with everyone else was now inside. 'If it wasn't for Jordan calling from Shot's radio transmitter we'd still be down there getting the shit kicked out of us. I can't imagine what that would feel like under that gravity pressure.'

>'But ultimately if it wasn't for Gillman being on support we wouldn't have gotten out' smiled Renshin.
'Woo! Lunar is on top!' said Laurie celebrating 'Time to head back to the guild room, get these guy's treated and restock our fridges and cupboards! Take us back Gillman!' Gillman from the cockpit fully engaged with steered the helicopter turned only his head a perfect 150 degrees

>'Which guild are you guys from, again?' Everyone else in the helicopter turned to look at each other confused. 'I serve all guilds.' Continued Gillman.
'Umm..Yeah, we're Lunar.' Said Laurie.

>'Oh right, coolâ€|Where is your guild room.' Laurie had absolutely no idea and simply sighed
'Lunar is not on topâ€|'

Lunar Antics " Chapter 2

Kironaka gazed blackly into her small mirror. She was perfectly dull today, she looked it and she felt it. Some mornings you just wake up feeling bad, take a look in the mirror and realise why: A bad hair day. There wasn't a large contingent of people in the guild who had experience in hair-care, but Kironaka decided to ask for some advice on what to do to fix her dilemma. Dazed had very bright colourful hair, no one could pinpoint what her natural hair colour was or her definitive image " If Dazed's hair could be summed up in one word it would be "anime" or possible "kawaii" but perhaps a bit of a stretch.

Wearing her Bunny Renegades hoodie tightly, hiding her hair, Kironaka pulled Dazed aside from Laurie, who was lecturing her why takoyaki was the best type of dumpling, and asked her what to do about her hair problem. They stood in a secluded corner of the guild room with no one nearby except for a dozing Kazeru who was far off in dreamland.

>"Well I put all sorts of products in to maintain my hair," said Dazed "But I try not to talk too much about it " you need to be artificially natural, you understand?" Kiro did not understand
"What are you guys talking about?!" Laurie had popped up out of the blue.

>"Kiro has a hair problem." Said Dazed
"PAH," spat Laurie, dumpling crumbs going everywhere and landing just as Kazeru's feet "Let's see then." Dazed who had also not seen yet peered slowly back at Kironaka who shrugged. As her hair surfaced out from the hoodie Dazed gasped and Laurie choked slightly, keeling backwards and thumping his chest. Kiro's hair could only be described as curly, swirly and simultaneously spiky. If a child were to scribble endlessly on a sheet of paper the final result would look at lot like Kiro's current hairstyle

>"Yikes, I don't know what to suggest Kiro, as my hair is always natural straight somehow." Said Laurie as he scratched the side of his head where hair clearly poked out more prominently.
"Don't you normally wear a hairband?" asked Shot approaching the group from the central tree in the guild room "I mean, that's what I do otherwise my dreads might look stupid.

>"Just leave it!" shouted Renshin joining in also and causing the sleeping Kazeru to stir in the process "That's what I do, and look! No problems!" he proceeded to stroke his hair, which looked progressively greasier than usual.
"You don't know the half of hair problems!" squeaked Spotpup who had dashed over whilst overhearing the topic "Try having it covering your entire body!"

>"You're a dog, that's not relevant." Said Kenshiro from a distance.
"What about you, Kenshiro?" asked Aquila from an even further distance "How do you treat your fur, or are they scales, I don't understand; you have hair atop your head too, but is that made of different materials or is it quite similar?" Kenshiro made no expression and simply stared on, blank.

No further questions were asked and focus quickly returned to Kironaka's dilemma, it wasn't long before everyone who had gathered was doing their part to try and fix Kiro's hair. Dazed pouring a bottle of unknown foam, Laurie scratching one side of her head rapidly and Shot focusing on applying a hairband, with a bleary-eyed Kazeru who had woken up lurking over his shoulder, watching silently.

All the while Renshin shouted "JUST LEAVE IT!" over and over whilst pointing right into the reconstruction. Headbands lay at Kiro's feet, her hair completely hidden in foam, everyone watched wide-eyed and silent, awaiting the result.

>"I can't wait any longer!" cried Laurie pouring a full bucket of water over Kiro's head. To their amazement Kiro's hair was revealed as completely dry and just as it always had been, neatly pulled back and kept tidy with a single black hairband causing a large ponytail up above her head. Who would've thought messing up hair that was already messy would fix it.
"Now that's teamwork." Said Dazed, capping her hair foam bottle and eying up the group's handiwork.

>"Let's not forget who single-handedly made Kiro's ponytail!" grinned Shot with swelling pride.
"Did you say Ponytail?" mumbled the sleepy Kazeru who had been watching since waking up. "I'm the ponytail master, no one can tie one up better than me. I can make one from any style even if it's messy." Pulling out a headband on to his own set of bedhead he gripped a handful of hair, put the headband around it and then as if by magic it all became smooth and silky. The group smiled lazily and mumbled their compliments, turning away, then out of nowhere a sudden torrent of abuse

>"WHERE WERE YOU KAZ!" shouted Laurie "we were all offering advice and doin' a group effort thing when really all we needed was you!"
"I'm happy that I helped out, but Kaz, you really wasted a lot of people's time." Said Renshin through tears

>"What did I do?!" replied Kazeru woefully "I was just napping then I heard something and woke up, now this!" Kazeru jogged around the guildroom whilst being pelted with hair products, clumps of Kiro's hair and soggy dumplings. Kiro looked on at the gaggle of guildies chasing Kazeru around and segmenting off to chase each other and run around. Kiro couldn't help but realise there was no hostility, just joking around and having good old fashioned fun.
"Thank you everyone" smiled Kiro as she lay back to relax whilst watching everybody having fun with each other's company.

3. Beasting

It was a day like any other in the Lunar guildroom, except Laurie was very, very bored.

>'Come and play GAT!' cried Spot.
'Nope.' Droned Laurie.

>'Let's explore Bafabon's dungeon!' cried Funneh
'Nope.' Droned Laurie.

>'I got the honey bee accessory' said Renshin with eyebrows raised 'wanna see me try it out?'
'Mmm, yeah okay.' As a party; Laurie, Spot, Funneh and Renshin set off to Master Saga's Dojo to test out the accessory " but for some reason they were kicked out to the Downtown streets to train instead, which made no sense. Renshin was trying out all the different attacks on Spot until there was an outcry of pain

>'OWWOWOWOW!' howled Spot in common dog-fashion 'I got stung badly!' Laurie who had lazily not been paying much attention looked over
'Huh, what happened?' Renshin who was too shocked at what he had done and Spot who was in pain didn't reply, instead they quickly aid their goodbyes to Laurie and Funneh and left to get treatment.

Laurie was extremely confused

>'What did they do?'
"Spot got a bee sting." said Funneh

>'A beasting?'
'Yeah.'

>'I thought Spot would be the one dealing out beastings.'
'Huh? Why?'

>'Cause he's a beast?'
'What?!'

>'A dog is a beast, right?'
'I guess...? But Renshin was the one with the Honey Bee accessory!'

>'So?'
'Sooo, that's the only way to deal bee stings!'

>'He couldn't give him a beating with that, it's not that powerful of an acc really..'
'Wwwwwwhat?!'

>'If he wanted to give him a beating it'd be with a very vicious, powerful accessory, not the Honey Bee.'
'Well yeah! But BEES STING.'

>'Huh?'
'BEES STING. WITH STINGERS. Bees do all the stinging!'

>'A beating would kill youâ€|'
'What?!'

>'But a bee sting can get treatmentâ€|'
'Yeah?!'

>'Like an ice pack or somethingâ€|'
'Yes Laurie! That's why they both left!'

>'This misunderstanding has been more trouble than it's been worth.'
'It has, hasn't it?!'

>'A poor premise for a chapter.'
'Yup!'

Then Manteppp descended from the heaven's and smite both of them.

>The end.<p>

4. Different Tournament

LUNAR.

>Renown for its activities and Guild Tournaments such as the Heaven Driller Battle, The Turkey Day Fights and the most popular Gemini Tournament which is commonly said to be the one that kickstarted more widespread documentations of guild events.<p>

Today however the usual guild activities were in progress; A group of eight having some friendly spars in the GAT Stadiums, a smaller group half the size taking on a dungeon exploration instructed by the ever-hairy Bafabon, and of course several stragglers chilling in the guildroom chatting the time away. Among them was Funneh, Skepy and Renshin â€" coincidentally all winners of previous Guild Tournaments hosted by Kironaka.

>'Well, well, if it's the winner's brigade' came a voice a few paces away.
'Eh, who's that?' asked Funneh who had been resting his eyes and squinting under the sunlight. Amatseru had approached the three who were lunging about and leered down at them with his red eyes.

>'You fishin' for a fight, brother?' mocked Skepy. Amatseru grinned broadly, which made his red eyes look out of place and silly rather than menacing â€" he was really just trying to wind the others up.
'Why're you Old Tournament Bats lounging around? Think you've won the game?'

>'What game?' said Renshin sitting up; eyes blurry and hair messier than usual
'GetAmped2?' replied Amatseru.

>'Are you talking about GetAmped Tournaments or just GAT?' said Skepy
'They're just matches you know, not actual Tournaments.'
'Nevermindâ€|Anyway, why are you guys lying about like this?'

>'Ohâ€|Kironaka announced a new guild tournament but said we couldn't join cause we're previous winners.' answered Renshin. Amatseru glanced over at the Guild Bulletin Board,
'Thisâ€|doesn't look

like a typical fighting tournament to me. Why should you guys be excluded, it's run differently.' Renshin, Skepy and Funneh exchanged perplexed looks. 'Did you guys even read it?!' probed Amatseru.

>'Well no,' said Funneh but Kiro said she wanted everyone to have a fair chance so excluded the old tournament winners.'
'But there's no fighting involved!' burst Amatseru, baffled by this reasoning
'It's a-

>'It's a Singing Competition!' Kazeru had pounced onto the scene, twirling like a majestic ballerina and appropriately wearing a full dress and tiara like a beautiful princess. Renshin, Skepy and Funneh looked at each other once more, smiling
'Looks like we miss out on nothing after all' said Skepy through his teeth.

>'Yeaahh.' Said Funneh 'I'm a Fighter, not a Singer.'
'What are you guys talking about!' piped up Renshin 'I wish I could sing in a competition, I'd be great!'

>'You gotta let this underdog shine' beamed Kazeru flicking Renshin's nose.
'I already shine with my golden coat, thank you.' Replied the actual dog Spotpup walking past and overhearing 'But I will be entering too, so see you there.'

>'The contest will be in Spin Square after dark,' said Kazeru eying down Spot moodily as he walked away 'Kironaka and Kenshiro are setting up a stage now, don't ask where Laurie is, word is he's hungover or something but they're still gonna try and get him to come and maybe participate.'
'Where are we gonna go in Spin Square to see this?' asked Funneh 'The place is pretty huge after all..'

>'Oh! They got Diceman to move for the evening!' cried Kazeru barely containing his excitement 'So it'll be just north of the fountain! Anyone's free to come and watch.' Amatseru, Renshin, Skepy and Funneh nodded to one another, they could be in for a humorous night. As they casually wandered down to the Spin Square Kazeru dashed off, holding the sides of his dress to step further with his heels on.<p>

It wasn't long before the big players all hit the stage; Kazeru with his pretty princess dress, Spot in a scruffy looking sky blue suit and a red bowtie, Laurie who had showed up last minute, blank faced and wearing only a heart-patterned set of boxer briefs, and lastly Renshin " who despite having winning The Heavenly Drill Battle as a previous Guild Event was determined to sing his heart out.

>Kironaka as head-honcho guild event organiser and judge sat in the very front row with a desk in front of her, she looked on smiling at the participation for a non-battling guild event.
'Can Renshin even enter..?' whispered Kenshiro who was also one of the event's judges. Kironaka glanced over at Renshin on the far right, who at initial first glance looked perfectly normal, but upon inspection was indeed standing unusually still and straight, his smile a little forced and a dabble of sweat on his forehead. Kironaka gave a positively enthused nod and Kenshiro, shrugging slightly, leant back into his seat.

>'How did I get here?' mumbled Laurie as he scratched the crotch of his boxers slowly, unaware of the audience. No one acknowledged this as Shot, the third person behind the judges table, stood up.
'Not the biggest turnout of people wanting to participate, we can't all be singers I guess. But anyway, we'd like to start now, Spot, you're up first' Spot? Spot was faced away from the judges and audience, trembling slightly. As he turned back it became apparent that he was in fact laughing

>'Sorry-' said Spot mid-giggle 'I just find it funny how we have a

strict, nice and umm..a black guy as judges.' The judges looked confusingly at one another, and Shot rather offended. 'Like Simon, Paula and Randy from the original American Idol?' Everyone suddenly understood, but no one laughed.
'Thanks for that Spot, you're disqualified,' said Shot politely 'please leave the stage.'

>'What?! I didn't even get to sing! C'mon Kironaka, surely you're not in favour of this!' Kironaka gave yet another positively enthused nod. Spot with his body tense from pleading suddenly drooped and he ambled slowly off-stage with his feet dragging and his sad tail between his legs.<p>

With the centre stage now free, Kazeru lifting the corners of his dress to walk stepped forward, beaming with happiness.

>'Uh, Kazeru it's not your turn.' said Kenshiro with forced sympathy 'Renshin will be up next.' Kazeru wondered if this had been done just to spite him, but begrudgingly returned to his seat while the nervous shuffling Renshin took his place. As Renshin stepped up to the microphone beads of sweat were now dropping to the ground from his head. His adamant smile remained slightly askew, he took in a deep calming breath to begin singing
'WAIT!' came a loud cry from stage left. Amatseru had rushed on to the stage with Moko short in tow. 'We want to enter too!'

>'Amat and Mokoâ€|?' said a puzzled Shot with an eyebrow raised 'You two are the last people I would think to enter.'
'We weren't gonnaâ€|' said Amatseru shyly â€" an image very strange in contrast to his blood red eyes

>'But with my KDJ skills accompanying Amat's singing,' said Moko taking charge 'we thought we might be able to pull it off, so we'd like to enter as a duo!'
'Are they allowed to do that?' whispered Kenshiro over to Kiro. Kironaka gave yet another positively enthused nod. 'Wellâ€|if you say so.' He said with a sigh sinking back into his chair once more.

>'HOLD ON!' cried an angry voice from the audience 'If those latecomers get to join then some of us in audience who never signed up should get to as well!' There was apparent unanimous agreement from the rest of the audience behind the judges
'Floof, I'm sure your singing voice is great,' said Shot 'but the contest is already under way, so I'm sorry Amat and Moko..' the two looked aghast 'but if we let you join last minute then everyone else should be allowed as well, and we're not going to do that, are we Kiro?' Kironaka gave yet another positively enthused nod. 'We..We are?!' There was a loud cheer from the crowd and one by one guild members flocked to the stage; Grau fixing his hair, Bladmirus clearing his throat calmly, as well as Aquila looking neutral and simply blurting noises and speaking in tongues. Several others followed behind, grinning and getting themselves AMPED up.

>'NO!' blurted Kazeru, stomping his feet forcefully under his dress and red in the face. 'I won't allow any of these lazy late entries! If they want to join they should've signed up in advance!'
'baaah, c'mon Kaz.' Bargained Shot 'Don't be a fun-hog. Let the others join, it's only a singing contest.'

>'What am I doing hereâ€|' murmured Laurie, still standing motionless in his underwear.
'I won't allow it! Nah! No way!' continued Kazeru 'I won't let them ruin my chances at winning!' with darkness emitting from his hands, Kazeru spawned two violent looking mutilation discs, contrasting horribly with his elegant dress and tiara. 'THERE CAN ONLY BE ONE FUCKING PRETTY PRINCESS.' And with that proclamation he dived into the mob of newcomers to the stage, singling out the oblivious Aquila, still humming and making noises.

At the moment of impact in an instant Aquila leaned fully back, his feet still grounded but his back horizontal. His face was still oblivious but gradually formed surprise. Kazeru was slashed back by a Sacrifice Reaper Scythe which spawned in Aquila's hand the moment he swung into action.

>'If this singing contest has fighting then I'm definitely in' grinned Aquila before being blown away by a gigantic laser beam.
'Does a laser from the mouth of my laser blaster count as singing..?' asked Grau in mid-air

>'None of it really matters anymore.' whispered a voice from behind him 'Hello.' An Ardent Hammer pummelled Grau down into the ground with full force brandished by Bladimus
'It does matter! I may be nervous but I want to sing!' cried Renshin hastily 'Surprise!' with a fully charged Kung-Fu punch Renshin sent Bladimus soaring from view. The chaos of these single knockouts had sent the other guild members into a frenzy, Moko and Amatseru holding their own against a barrage of bullets and flying daggers, Kenshiro and Shot defending Kiro against people who had forgotten they were supposed to be judges, Spot rushing around wildly slashing people with the gigantic Exodus Power sword.

>'THIS IS IT FOR YOU GUYS!' screamed Kazeru at the top of his lungs, his mutilation discs spinning out of control and vibrating madly 'I WILL BE THE PRETTIEST PRINCESS!' with a harsh flick of both his arms discs flew everywhere slicing everything in their path and simultaneously exploding with a massive boom that absorbed the whole section of Spin Square.<p>

When the debris of the explosion had cleared a skeleton of the stage remained, bodies scattered left, right and centre. One solitary, unaffected figure remained as a dim shadow in the dust. Kironaka, Shot and Kenshiro who were still conscious and at their seats leaned forward and squinted their eyes to see the victor of the destruction

>'What am I doing hereâ€|' the messy haired, blood-shot eyed Laurie remained, now completely naked as his heart-patterned underwear lay as a pile of ripped up ash at his feet. As for the rest of his body not a single urn could be seen. Smiling as she had the entire time Kironaka gave yet another positively enthused nod. Shot and Kenshiro both looked to their left and right at Kiro in the middle of the two, then uncertainly at one another, then back at the wrecked stage.
'Right..uhh..' mumbled Kenshiro

>'We have a winner!' blurted out Shot. Laurie's tired eyes blankly stared off into space as he remained emotionless as he slowly grinded his head over to face Shot. The two stared at one another, Shot furrowing his eyebrows in perplexity. Laurie's blank face slowly began to smile, his eyes teared up in possible happiness, until Shot realised the hilt of Spot's enormous Exodus Power sword popping out from Laurie's anus but with Spot nowhere to be seen. In an instant without seeing him fall Laurie was flat on his face, not dead, but merely sleeping and snoring loudly on the ground.
Bodies everywhere, the stage with wooden planks snapped and the curtains tattered, the three judges remained motionless. Kironaka rose wiping her hands together as if signifying a job well done then shuffled past Kenshiro and walked off.

>'That's it..?' muttered Kenshiro 'There was no singing at all, just a normal tournament battle...No winner.'
>'You're right,' answered Shot 'But we did have fun right? I mean look;' Kenshiro looked around examining all the bodies closely, and suddenly it was clear. Everyone; whether unconscious or sleeping, was smiling peacefully. Kenshiro snickered to himself as he realised Shot was right â€" he couldn't

help himself, because he too was smiling.

5. Oldschool Faces

Something was off about the guild room, it looked less energetic and lively as usual, as if the clocks had gone backward to a different time where the guild was not as populated and interconnected as it was today. But as a matter of fact this was exactly what had happened; Laurie just didn't realise it yet as he stroked his polygon mish-mash of smooth and spiky hair.

>"I don't feel myself.." muttered Laurie to himself "Is my hair always like this? My clothes too!?" he looked down at his plain white long-sleeve and electric blue jeans. "There is something a little familiar about this thoughâ€|Did I wear this once?"
"GAH!" came a distant cry from Renshin who came running over at top speed "What am I!" he screamed whilst looking more or less the same as he always did. His hair and outfit were possibly not as detailed as always, but he still had the same hair, face and jacket.

>"You're not too bad Renshin," admitted Laurie "at least I know it's you. I have no idea what that guy over there is." Laurie pointed out a black and white figure sitting under one of the guild trees.
"Crickey!" cried Renshin in a heavy attempt of an Australian accent like the Crocodile Hunter "Let's sneak in for a closer peek!" Shrugging, Laurie followed the squatting-shuffle of the crab-like Renshin over to the figure by the tree

>"Kai is Maori for food." Stated Laurie reading the shirt of the stranger "and Kaiser is German for kingâ€|Food King?"
"Laurie, It's me!" cried the mysterious man looking up, startled. "Kazeru! This use to be my look, you didn't really know me back then."

>"Oooooohâ€| right." said Laurie not fully understanding but pretending to. "Who's your friend?" On the other side of the tree was another unknown figure to Laurie.
"Laurie...seriously...c'mon." The chubby stern-looking face was unfamiliar, however his outfit was exactly the same asâ€|

>"Original?" Laurie could scarcely remember the days Original looked like this with a grumpy looking face all the time and fairly vacant eyes.
"Don't you dare get fucking started on the hair, yeah, I see you snickering over there, Renshin!" With Original's overly angry burst over something minor Laurie couldn't help but start laughing â€| Original's old look had an infamous 'Triangle Haircut' which was pointy to the touch. "Yeah, laugh it up Laurie!" shouted Original spitefully "You still have your old helmet hair."

>"Don't try and shift the spotlight onto me" gasped Laurie as he got his laughter under control "You're the one with triangle hair after all."
"Baah!" grumbled Original, "I don't wanna live in the past, how are we gonna get out old..our currentâ€|urgh! You get what I mean!" The group pondered to themselves; how they became like this was completely unknown

>"Well giving us our old looks is definitely some sort of magic, but also creepyâ€|" said Renshin vocalizing his thoughts
"I think it's cool" grinned Kazeru.

>"Trust Kaz to think something creepy is cool." Said Laurie with raised eyebrows.
"Who do we know who is magic and creepy, Laurie?" asked Renshin

>"What?!" said Laurie taken aback "How should I know?!"
"Because we've dealt with someone like that before..Or not, well, we never actually-"

>"You never finished episode four!" The loud demon-like voice of

sorcerer Ponse loomed overhead. The four looked up to see the robed man, flying above them.
"Why'd you make us like we were years ago?!" cried Original
>"I was hoping to restore the passion to make animations!" replied Ponse
"Hey..It's a long process" said Renshin
>"Yeah," agreed Laurie "It's always been a long process; for all episodes. It may take longer by a little bit now but quality of episode 1 or 2 right?"
"Can we all just shut up and get turned back to normal?" butted in Original whilst furiously trying tp pat his hair flat with no success. "Just do some more editing or whatever for episode four, Ponse might turn us back."
>"Ponse," said Laurie "turn us back and Renshin and I might do some more work on episode 4 okay?" Ponse rolled his eyes and shrugged, with a wave of his hands the four felt their bodies contort and accelerate through different forms and outfits of the past, until they stopped and were back to how they always were.
"You guys better deliver on thatâ€|" said Ponse quietly "mark my woooooords." And before they knew it he had jumped off the edge of the guild room and was hovering down to the clouds below out of view.

6. Beachbound! (Beach Pt1)

Lunar Antics â€" Beach Day

"Day at the beach!" repeated Laurie to a perplexed Original who had just asked why Laurie was wearing a pair of trunks, an orange rubber ring and a pair of goggles around his neck "and you're coming with me!" Renshin, Kazaeru and Kironaka looked up from their breakfast bows â€" Renshin still eating his cereal despite this sudden proposal.

>"Huh, what were you saying?" asked Kazeru.
"Laurie wants us to have a beach day," said Original "you guys keen?" Kazeru began picking his nose, sniffed a little then said;

>"Yeah, all right."
"Geah, gounds aorghit. Gib me ag mohmen." Gargled Renshin through his cereal

>"What?!" cried Original
"GIG ME A MOMEN-"

>"No Renshin, we gotta go now while the day is young," said Laurie with reasoning "it's gonna take us an hour to get there, just bring your cereal with you!"
"NOAW!" squeeled Renshin hoistering his cereal bowl right up to his face.

>"You're coming Renshin, YA' COMIN' WITH US!' Laurie leant down and attempted to thrust the bowl from Renshin's tight hold but it wouldn't budge even the slightest
"Leave him, if he doesn't wanna come then don't force him." Said Original loosely trying to pull Laurie back from Renshin.

>"Does this mean I can join the Bunny Renegades and replace Renshin?" whispered Kazeru to Kiro who rolled her eyes and giggled to herself. Laurie was calmly knelt down on one knee with a firm hand on Renshin's shoulder now.
"Renshin, listen, when we get to the beach I will buy you a brand new box of cereal." Renshin didn't make eye-contact and held a stiff upper lip like a child refusing to comply. "I will buy you the crescent cereal, not the cheap WIN stuff, all right?" Renshin slowly faced Laurie with his puffed out lips and half-closed eyes giving him an indulgent, chubby-looking smile. The two shook hands sealing the deal and stood up, across from them Original, Kiro and Kaz had already packed their bags and Laurie had his secret case close nearby, presumably packed with beach supplies among other unknown contents.

>"Okay, uh, let me go and get my stuff ready then" said Renshin with

a quick turn
>"Togs!" called Laurie
>"Sunblock!" cried Original
>"Your Bunny Renegades hoodâ€|" mumbled Kazeru bitterly. While Renshin hurried off to pack Laurie pulled out his combat operations to contact Gillman then foolishly realised the man himself was right behind him as they were in the guild room. Receiving Laurie's orders Gillman went up to the top platform of the guild room and started spinning the helicopter's propeller to take off. As soon as Renshin re-emerged ready to hit the beach the helicopter was ready for takeoff and the five hopped in with their backpack, Laurie with his secret case, Renshin with a pink-heart bag filled with cereal. The helicopter trembled and elevated steadily into the air, into the clouds and picking up speed as they headed off to Wingdom's most popular beach spot simply known as 'The Wharf'

It was nearly midday by the time the group hovered over top of The Wharf; with tall rocks on either side and man-made wooden docks and bridges. Commonly used for more laid-back GAT battles The Wharf actually contained a golden hidden treasure on the other side of the rocks â€" A long sandy bay complete with shady palms, an ice cream shack and periodic calm and crazy waves for bathing and surfing alike. As the helicopter flew over the mountains of rock revealing The Wharf's luxury bay the group Ooo'd and Aah'd in awe â€" except for Renshin who poked Laurie's rubber tube, demanding cereal
>"When we get there!" hissed Laurie. As a rope dropped out of the helicopter Gillman poked out a thumb, rudly indicating 'get out.' Kironaka smiled at him and although his eyes were hidden by his sunglasses his mouth was apparent and he grinned back at her. Kiro with such agility and elegance forward-flipped out the slide-opened door with no need for the rope; with her ponytail whipping behind her in the wind like a fierce snake Kironaka landed perfectly on her feet â€" much like a snake who always lands perfectly, but has no feet. The rest of the Bunny Renegades; Laurie, Original and Renshin looked on god-smacked, however Kazeru was bursting with over-confidence and followed Kiro out the door without the rope. His run-up staggered slightly just before he jumped out and because of his lack of speed was unable to flip, instead he flapped about in free-fall before landing with his head firmly submerged in the sand just at the water's edge. Original gasped while Laurie silently held a fist to his mouth to stop from laughing, Renshin was already half way down the rope safely.
>"Get in, the water's great!" came Kazeru's muffled voice under the sand as small waves from the water front splashed his neck and shoulders. Laurie and Original slid down swiftly onto the beach, Renshin and Original hurried off to get changed while Laurie helped pull Kazeru out of the sand.
>"The water is wonderful!" came a soft voice from their left, It was only until the two looked over that they realised it was Kironaka who had spoken, as she rarely did. Kazeru's jaw hit the floor as he looked over, for Kiro had stripped down to a navy blue bikini she wore underneath her tank-top and jeans.
>"Whhâ€|hooâ€|" puffed Kazeru breathing heavily
>"Buck up, Kazeru" whispered Laurie trying to hide his own nervousness. Laurie was somewhat proud that Kironaka felt so comfortable around them that she would be first to dive into the waves, but he couldn't shake the feeling that something felt wrong at this quiet secluded beach.
>"Can I have that crescent cereal yet?" came Renshin's adamant voice from behind him
>"No, not yet!" boistered Laurie, whilst turning around. Renshin was butt naked, he completely had nothing. Original stood beside him in a full wetsuit, completely oblivious to the absurdity of Renshin's swimming attire if it could be called that. "Good god Renshin!"

screamed Laurie leaping backwards and hiding behind Kazeru "Why are you wearing nothing!?"
"Goku wore nothing when he swam in Dragon Ball." Replied Renshin with a vacant smile.

>"Yeah, but you're not goku!" snapped Laurie "If Goku jumped off a cliff, would you?!" Renshin glanced at Kazeru whose head and hair was still quite sandy from the fall.
"No." admitted Renshin

>"Right," sighed Laurie "so put some togs on, please."
"I got your back covered, Renshin. I'll get you something to swim in." said Original slapping Renshin's back.

>"Kironaka's already gone inâ€|" said Kazeru dreamily.
"Kaz! Control yourself, you're gonna weird her out." Said Laurie

>"Ready!" called Renshin. To Laurie's lack of surprise Renshin had screwed up again, but oblivious Original was to blame equally. He had cut around his waist and was wearing the lower half of his wetsuit, meanwhile Renshin was still exposed downstairs, minus his torso which was covered.
"Goddamn it you guysâ€|" muttered Laurie

>"What!?" snapped Original angrily "I said I had his back â€" look! It's covered!" before Laurie could retort he suddenly realised Kazeru had dashed off, he looked up and down the beach and saw Kazeru sprinting back in a pair of purple speedos wearing a snorkel and set of goggles from his hand.
"Kazeru, you going for a swim?!" called Laurie. Kazeru stopped dead in his tracks

>"Uh, yeahâ€|I guess sort of-maybe."
"What do you mean? Can we join you?" Kazeru scratched his head, his elbow and his crotch nervously

>"Uh, no, it's okay."
"Why do you want swim on your own-" Laurie had glanced over at Kironaka deeper in the water swimming about.

"NOPE, KAZ, I think we'll be coming in with you!" Kazeru reluctantly nodded dropping his snorkel and goggles on the sand and joined the others as they entered the water. As Laurie floated about safely in his orange rubber tube with an expression of content on his face the others splashed playfully at one another, Kazeru beginning to be less awkward and splashing Kironaka as well as the other two. No one seemed to mind Renshin's privates dangling about in the ocean now that they were having so much fun. When they had had all of their fill they all waded back in to the shore, Laurie was at ease to see Renshin had fashioned a bundle of seaweed looking remarkably like swimming trunks.

>"It just happened!" exclaimed Renshin "I didn't make these or anything!" Everyone laughed at the ridiculousness of it all and then all agreed to visit the ice cream shack in the middle of the bay. The day was off to a good start and as the other four marched on ahead Laurie took a moment to be with himself and bask in the sunlight. As he turned back to look at the ocean another wave of unease washed over him as he realised Kazeru's dropped snorkel and goggles from earlier were nowhere to be seen.<p>

7. Ice Cream Shack (Beach Pt2)

Lunar Antics â€" Ice Cream Shack

Kironaka, Renshin, Original, Kazeru and Laurie bringing up the rear pushed open the old western bar styled doors and entered the dimly lit shack. Business was obviously not going too well in such a secluded location and as an ice cream bar it looked strangely old-fashioned; as if it should specialize in cheap grog or alcohol instead.

>"Does this place really sell ice cream..?" whispered Kazeru uncertainly. Kironaka shrugged and turned to listen to Laurie and Original who were already discussing the possibilities.
"If they serve alcohol I'm getting a pint of beer!" grinned Original "That'd be nice on a hot day like this. What are you gonna get?"
>"I'll get some sake if they have it" said Laurie curiously "I've always wanted a sake bottle."
"You will never have a sake bottle Laurie, not unless you go to the JP server."
>"Huh?"
"I mean Japan."
>"We don't server alcohol s you can quit your yappin'" A familiar voice had halted the groups discussion and startled Original and Laurie as they stood near the entrance. From behind the bar the voice spoke again
"Howdy, you guys coming up to the bar to get something or what?"
>"Who is this guy?" asked Renshin
"Not sure.." replied Laurie "But it's definitely a familiar voice, did anyone else from the guild come to the beach today?" To Laurie's right Kironaka gasped and pointed; in a booth in the far corner of the room were five figures that Laurie immediately recognised as fellow guildies
>"H-" Original had slapped a hand to Laurie's mouth and shook his head gravely
"Something is off." He whispered "Let's just get to the bar and have an ice cream, or whatever they have."
>"Crescent cereal." Stated Renshin with utmost seriousness.
"Yeah, we'll see." Said Laurie rolling his eyes.

The five sat next to one another at the bar in a line, the seats were rusty and uncomfortable and the wooden bar felt a bit unsafe for leaning on.

>"Why is a bar so dank in a nice location like this..?" asked Original
"It's not dank!" snapped kazeru misinterpreting this as a slang for cool or awesome.

>"What'll it be? Came the familiar voice of the barman who had seemingly appeared right in front of them. The five of them jumped in their seats, Renshin's breaking entirely with him collapsing on the floor.
"Give us five ice creams." Said Kironaka smiling confidently. The barman who was darkened by the lowered roof behind the bar let out a sigh

>"What flavour?"
"Just any flavour please!" burst out Kazeru trying to match Kiro's confidence, but just coming off as trying to hurry the process along.

>"We don't serve ice cream." Said the barman upfrontedly.
"Wh-Why did you ask what flavour we wanted then?!" cried Renshin. The barman sounded uncertain in himself now;

>"I don't know." He said blankly "This is a milk bar, we only have milkshakes and the like."
"There's a sign up top of your bar saying 'Ice Cream Shack' in bright pink"well, faded pink." Stated Kazeru pointing to the roof.

>"That should say Milk Bar." Replied the voice "meant to change that, I bought this place and it already had that, this place is as old as they come."
"That explains the creepy run-down image of the building." Original whispered to Laurie

>"Do we know you?" Laurie asked ignoring Original, feeling more certain than ever in his assumption.
"Not that I'm aware of" said the voice of the barman, still unidentifiable in the shadows.

>"You're not a member of Lunar? Ex-Member?"
"Hey." Reverberating a very serious voice from the booth on the far side of the shack. His piercing red eyes and well-structured hair were instantly recognisable even from a distance; Amatsuru had stood up amongst the group looking surprisingly hostile and menacing

>"Oh, hey!" called Laurie, oblivious to Original's prior warning. He briskly walked over to the booth with a grin sprawled across his face "I wanted to say hello before but Original said-" Laurie was pummelled full force into the ground by a powerful fist clad in blue boxing gloves.
"Two hits." Came a sneering voice "Hitting you," in a stupor Laurie staggered about until his knees buckled and fell "and you hitting the floor." With a thud Laurie was out for the count, a trickle of blood leaking from the right side of his head where he had been punched. With his cunning and squinty eyes of undistinguishable colour Moko sneered overtop of Laurie, adjusting his gloves which had nearly fallen off due to the strength of the impact.

>"Bet you didn't expect that, huh 'Guild Leader'" he mocked downwardly
"Ahhh! Laurie's down!" squealed Kazeru

>"What the hell is wrong with you guys!" shouted Original brandishing his two-handed sword: Alastor's Rage.
"This is out turf." Said Jordan who remained seated in the very middle of the booth "Not just this shack, the whole beach."

>"That's very unlike you guys.." said Renshin with a frown "You should share the beach with everyone."
"We would.." said Jordan rubbing his head "but-"

>"We can do what we want." Cut in Moko who had finished fixing his tactical boxing gloves. "We're not in the Guild Room or on an actual GAT area."
"You just knocked out the guild leader!" cried Original "and you guys seem okay with that?! You're gonna be in so much trouble when he wakes up."

>"Who says he's gonna wake up?" said Moko advancing slowly. Original felt threatened as he gripped his sword tighter.
"Kiro, protect Laurie" he whispered back. The other two unknown guildies remained dormant at the booth, sipping milkshakes. Walking menacingly and unexpectedly breaking into a mad dash at Original, Moko pulled a fist back and Original parried with ease, whipping his sword away from the impact and striking forward with a great stab, which Moko instantly back-flipped away from.

>"C'mon Moko!" cheered Amatseru aggressively "You beat Laurie in one punch, kick Original's ass!" The cheering was abruptly put to a stop as he was grabbed then thrown aside by Renshin armed with Thai-boxing attire. Amatseru pelted down, unable to retain his balance and smashed against two rogue stools which crumbled into a heap of rotten wood and dust on top of him.
"No spectating," smirked Renshin "you're fighting me." Amatseru growling through his teeth withdrew his concealed Ninja's kunai ready for a counter attack while Renshin stepped fiercely in true Thai-boxing form.

The two sets battled ferociously until Amatseru and Moko were back to back with each other

>"Switch up!" cried Moko in a hushed whisper. The two spun 180 degrees on the spot and dashed out, catching Original and Renshin by surprise as the wrong person charged at them. Now Amatseru was slashing wildly with small knives that Original couldn't keep up blocking due to his much larger sword, meanwhile Renshin was unable to block or reverse large punches from moko's boxing and was forced to dodge them instead, which every third punch he was unable to and took a blow. As their comrades were being beaten Kazeru was trying to sneakily get outside, leading Kiro along with him,
"They got this." He whispered as he saw Renshin take a punch to the chest, coughing blood "They've definitely got this, let's go."

>"Not so fast!" called Jordan exiting the booth "You're not going anywhere without a fight first."
"No, no, no!" whimpered Kazeru "We're caught-Kiro, leave him to me and you get out and get safe!" But Kiro didn't want to leave as she drew her nunchaku of gale "Kiro!

Please," he continued. With a puff of black smoke Jordan was surrounded in his yatararasu crow attire and he lunged at Kazeru, but with both of their talons perfectly locked together and he was unharmed. "Go Kiro! I won't ask again!" pleaded Kazeru with his own Crow attire and wincing through the pressure from Jordan. As her comrades fell one by one Kiro bolted for the door and out onto the sunny beach. She wanted to help them somehow but she couldn't take all of them on alone once the others were knocked out. Lunar members were often fairly equal when in random teams but for some reason this was overkill, something wrong was definitely up with this strange run down shack. There must be a way to take them all down, thought Kiro. Then suddenly she had a solution.

8. Of Similar Appearance (Beach Pt3)

Lunar Antics " Of Similar Appearance

Laurie woke up, his vision blurred, his head dizzy. He felt the hard wood against his back, the floating unsettled dust in the air. He tilted his heavy head down to the right, seeing what the disturbance was; A clashing of blades from Original and Amatseru, Original with his small cuts all across his body and Amatseru with one massive gash across his whole chest. Moko and Jordan stood watching, mildly entertained and calm while Renshin and Kazeru lay unconscious on the floor. With an instantaneous lunge Amatseru had unleashed a special attack with his Ninja's Kunai and Original's eyes rolled back into his head as he cried out in pain.

>"That's a K.O." said Moko smugly whilst applauding.
"Look who's awake though!" cried Jordan excitedly as he pointed over at Laurie, struggling to stand himself up against a stool. "Can I get another fight in?!" he continued, his excitement reaching a new height.

>"Leave him," said Amatseru raising a hand "our new boss wants a word with him."
New Boss? Laurie looked around hastily for the culprit of his guildie's betrayal. The unknown figure of the bartender had revealed himself, and was most definitely recognisable as Laurie and the others had assumed, but completely non-sensical. A mirror image of Laurie stood before him, although something was amiss. Being an exact reflection the wavy hair pointed in the wrong direction, but also looked much darker in the light of the old run-down shack.

>"What is this old mirror" said Laurie, but immediately noticed his reflection not matching his mouth movement.
"This is our new leader" said Amatseru with a menacing grin and wiping Original's blood from his weapon. "Anti-Laurie."

Laurie was pummelled again with blunt force as he choked backwards, keeping his footing but gasping for air. His stomach ached as he predicted internal bleeding and broken ribs. The doppelganger advanced forward under a dim light from the ceiling.

>He was Laurie, but he was not.
With jet black hair, twisted red eyes and a grey-silver Secret Case he leered down at the damaged Laurie who was horrified. Laurie could barely speak, who was the 'Anti-Laurie', how was it that someone so similar could exist and why was he running an Ice Cream Shack that no longer sold ice creams?

>"I've been hired by the Val Sharks to take over Lunar." Said the Anti with an identical voice.
"Wouldn't be the first time I heard that" grinned Laurie despite the pain throughout his body "Ooo, I'm

going to destroy 'Luner', I will make a 'gilde' better than yours, I am Luner's rival â€" Stuff like that."

>"But you do see what I'm capable of?" said the Anti ignoring the real Laurie and gesturing to behind him where Amatseru and the others stood. "I can control your members and amplify their powers tenfold."
"-Well I wouldn't say that muchâ€|"

>"Hey, Moko wrecked you in one punch so don't try to deny it." Laurie kept shut after that. Anti-Laurie smirked at the silence. "Atta boy," he said snapping his fingers. Laurie heard a string of thuds behind him, the possessed guildies had simultaneously conked out face-first on the floor; Jordan banging his head on a chair in the process.

"Truth be told, I can't control that many guildies at once." Said Anti-Laurie matter of factly whilst pointing towards the booth where the possessed guildies had originally been at. Laurie distinctly remembered five figures but only three had revealed themselves, was this Anti-Laurie only toying with them and using half his potential? "But what I did have at my disposal was more than enough to take all of you down." He continued as if reading Laurie's mind. "Now it's just you and me and I'll fulfil my mission earlier than expected.
"You won't get away with this," said Laurie finally regaining his cool "the other guildies will know you're not really me."

>"Oh reallyâ€|? Howdy guys, I just picked up an aquamarine at the beach?! Cool, huh? Okay I gotta go AFK now, see you later, good ***ht!" Laurie had been silenced once more. "I just tell your guildies that I dress like this from now on with black and red stripes instead and they'll believe it 110%."<p>

Laurie was in agony, but also very drowsy as he clutched his chest. "Oh are you feeling a bit faint?" mocked Anti-Laurie "C'mon, aren't you going to be brave and put on one last fight? Or you could save some time for me and just die." His whole body was heavy from the pain as he tried to stand up. "It's been fun, I'll be off to take over Lunar now."

>"WAIT!" Laurie had cried out whilst realising he had only seen Original, Renshin and Kazeru's bodies around him â€" but certainly no Kironaka; surely she had gone off to get support and it wouldn't be long before she returned with company for a rescue. That must be what she was doing!
"What?" sneered Anti-Laurie "I don't have time for this."

>"How are you possible, how are you me? Who created you?"
"Ponse created me," he replied, entertaining Laurie's questioning but looking mildly disinterested at his fingernails. "I don't know how he did it, all I know is that I hate being a clone of someone else and not being myself. Even if we're the same you're you and I'm you. But originally I am no one." Laurie didn't follow a word of this, but as long as Anti-Laurie kept talking it didn't matter. "I am meaningless until you are dead â€" now stop prolonging your life!" The reflection on his existence had angered the Anti and possibly frightened him. Anti-Laurie held high the grey-red Secret Case stained from Laurie's blood; Kiro had to arrive soon! "Goodbye you. Hello Me-Youâ€|Or, just Me because I'll really be You..Or you'll be dead so I will only be-"

>The wall to the shack erupted open in a fiery blaze, bullets pierced through the wall and splintered the wood off into fragments. The rest of the shack caught fire and the two Laurie's suddenly could scarcely see through the smoke "ARGH, What! Who was that!" Anti-Laurie roared from a distance. Laurie felt a tight grip on his arm
"Kept you waiting long? I hope not." Came Kenshiro's voice through the smoke.

>"I'll get the others!" cried Funneh somewhere from Laurie's right as he started being dragged backwards out of the burning building. Purple rays shot from all directions in the smoke
"Obey me!" Cried Anti-Laurie "Kill Laurie!"
>"Wow, Kiro was right, he was controlling the others!" squealed Spotpup excitedly who rushed over to help pull Laurie at double the speed.<p>

The smoke cleared in small waves and Laurie caught glimpses of Kiro in the fray with her nunchak of gale, smacking Anti-Laurie about. Another purple ray shot wildly out of the smoke, missing Kenshiro's head by an inch as he violently jerked his head for a successful dodge. As Laurie was pulled out into the sunlight he heard the whirling of helicopter propellers overhead. Gillman had returned for a rescue operation! Neymar stood at the door as Kenshiro and Funneh exited the building dragging Laurie behind "More guildies will be arriving shortly to rescue the others!" he reported
>"Good, hold the fort." Said Kenshiro "As long as Kiro and Shot keep the guy disoriented in the smoke he won't control anyone else." Funneh jumped up into the open helicopter door as it flew low for the pickup while Kenshiro stayed below and lifted Laurie up to Funneh.
"Good luck!" called Funneh as he and Laurie ascended into the air. Kenshiro nodded down below and rushed past Neymar back into the shack. A much larger, armoured Helicopter passed by piloted by Aquila who gave a confident wave as he headed toward the battle to rescue the others.
>"I hope the others are safe.." groaned Laurie "Shot and Ken providing bomb support and Kiro with wind? They can keep up a smokescreen for ages."<p>

As the helicopter flew back over the golden sands and the rocky outcrop toward The Wharf, Laurie couldn't begin to see why Ponse would create an evil copy of him to take over the guild. Funneh grinned, noticing Laurie lost in thought; "Next time you go to the beach, make sure to invite more of us."

9. Friday Dinner Duty

Lunar Antics â€" Friday Dinner Duty

Friday Dinner duty in the guild was always a huge debate, sometimes the outcome was delicious, but most of the time it was flat out inedible. Tonight Laurie had assigned the most bizarre of trios to cook together; Original who although was a handsome young man ate the unhealthiest of diets but still with-held a fit physique, Funneh who was quite the opposite and ate healthily but lacked preparation skills for cooking, and lastly Spotpup, who inexplicably was a dog and could eat quite literally anything except maybe chocolate because apparently that kills them.

Underneath the left platform was the guild kitchens: Industrial strength stovetops, ovens and crockery lined the perimeters of the room â€" nothing was inaccessible which provided swift food preparation. Original was absent-mindedly chewing bubblegum and blowing bubbles which popped loudly in Funneh's ear who stood close by. Funneh was positively furious with his white spiky hair, he had his arms folded angrily and wore a black apron which inappropriately read "F**K YOU" in white lettering. Oddly though the blanked out letters were in the shapes of a cookie and a cake. Along with

original looking very bored and Funneh quietly boiling, Spotpup was quite the eager beaver with an entire chef's outfit on complete with Chef's hat and red scarf.

>"I've never cooked before!" cried Spot excitedly "I'm usually quite content with my dog food!"
"Why are we on COOKING DUTY!" erupted Funneh who couldn't contain his fury any longer "Laurie knows none of us can cook! Why did he put us all on together! Usually there's at least one person to instruct the others and it's all smooth!"

>"Because this is the first Friday in awhile that I've been free." The trio spun around to see who had spoken. A short brown haired girl wearing a similar outfit to Spot's, minus the Chef's hat stood by the stovetops behind them with a gigantic cooking pan on her back.
"I've heard rumoursâ€|" whispered Spot "The legendary Guild Chef â€" Ramona!"

>"That's right" smiled Ramona dicing up vegetables and sirloin faster than their eyes could see, except for Spot because as a dog he has heightened senses. "I cook all the food for the guild every day of the week, it's an easy task for me â€" But Friday is usually Poker Night, so that's why you guys have a Friday Dinner Duty." Original pictured Ramona's dicing of ingredients as shuffling and dealing cards and suddenly found this hobby not hard to believe. "Dolores gambled all her pocket money away last week so she wasn't keen to come along, so that meant Yashako didn't want to come either, and Yashako not coming made L.J not wanna come â€" I'm telling you people should just express their feelings for one another and stop tiptoeing around."
"Why aren't you wearing a Chef's hat?" asked Spot completely invested into his question and nothing else that was being spoken.

>"Well I would have one but there's no accessory which gives you one, Laurie and Renshin tried to get me one a few years ago butâ€|WELL, anyway, I'm here to teach you guys how to cook, not just for the betterment of the guild, but so you can cook for yourselves whenever your hungry. Cooking is a very important life skill you know!" Original could agree with that, and he liked Ramona's style, although she wore a Chef's outfit and it was her duty to the guild she didn't let it consume her outlook on the world. Funneh on the other hand was having none of it, as he grumbled to himself quietly, he was content eating an apple or a piece of toast if he was hungry, he had a simple diet and didn't need to cook. Lastly Spot was absolutely thrilled as he jumped up and down crying;
"OOOOOO! What are we going to make!" Ramona smiled at his enthusiasm

>"A simple lasagne, you'll have your meat and veges, a bit of dairy, and carbohydrates all in one delicious oven dish.
"Lasagne?!"

cried Spot "Who do you think I am? Garfield? I'm a DOG." The others laughed whilst Ramona rolled her eyes through a smile

>"Trust me, once you guys make this you'll see why it's his favourite food."<p>

The group's gatting skills paid off as they diced chicken, mushroom and onion respectfully. Chicken as thick cubes, onion as thin strands and mushroom as fine slices. Funneh was quite smug about the quality of his onion strands, meanwhile Spot couldn't care less about his mushroom as chicken was the only thing he had eyes for, after all, being a dog he was technically a carnivore. With a drizzle of virgin olive oil the chicken was cooked on it's own until lightly brown, the the onion was thrown in, then the mushroom.

>"They all have different cooking times!" cried Ramona "Don't mess up the order otherwise you might have some undercooked ingredients on your hands, the chicken is what you need to be worrying about most,

leaving that undercooked could get you seriously sick with salmonella.
"Mmmâ€|Salmon" salivated Original as the bubblegum slipped out of his mouth and onto the bench top
>"Be glad that didn't land in the panâ€|" said Ramona devastatingly
"Now, we could cut up some more fresh ingredients but this alternative should be just as good." Ramona placed down a tin can and a frozen bag with a thud.
"Tinned tomato puree, frozen mixed vegetables." Said Funneh reading aloud
>"That's right, open up that can, Funneh" said Ramona pulling out a can opener and passing it over. "and Spot, if you wouldn't mind tearing the corner of this bag off."
"BLAEGH, I hate vegetables!" cried Spot
>"Trust me, you'll barely taste them with the chicken and the sauce.<p>

The tomato puree and veges were added to make a smooth sauce with chicken and assorted vegetables and once it was all mixed up Laurie popped his head into the kitchens and demanded that the cooking process was sped up because 'these stories don't write themselves you know.'

>Pasta sheets were layered out, sheet, sauce, sheet, sauce, several times over with finely grated cheddar cheese throughout. In a big dish it was all cooked in the oven at 200 degrees for awhile while being monitored and then when it came out brown and crisp on the surface, but gooey and delicious on the inside.<p>

Walking in line, Funneh, Original and Spotpup nervously headed up the dinner tables lined up with chatting guildies, Funneh nervously presented Laurie a large slice of lasagne on a plate who like an exquisite connoisseur of taste shovelled a piece onto his fork, blew on it and put it into his mouth. Sweat dripped down Original's forehead as Laurie munched away, while the rest of the guild waited with baited breath, with the exception of Aquila who shouted;

>"WE'RE HUNGRY, HURRY UP, WE KNOW HOW THIS STORIES GONNA END, IT'S GONNA BE DELICIOUS, IT EVEN SAID SO EARLIER IN THE STORY THAT IT LOOKED DELICI-" and while Laurie's unused knife pierced through Aquila's skull he cried
"Delicious!" and the rest of the guild cheered at the success of the culinary rookies now graduated to acceptable chefs!

The whole guild tucked in as Ramona, winking at her apprentice chefs, brought out multiple portions on plates for everyone to enjoy and Original Funneh and Spot were very proud to have finally cooked something and felt in future they could try cooking new things on their own.

10. MegaFest (Mega Op Pt1)

Lunar Antics â€" MegaFest

"We have a winner!" Cried Jacky Noboru as Laurie's head splashed up out of the tub of water.
>"HOOWAY!" he roared through the two full apples bursting out of each cheek. Floof nibbled at his own small un-ripened apple bitterly, he thought the least that could happen would be Laurie getting a bigger apple. Never could he have imagined that Laurie would get two but what he didn't know was that Laurie was the apple bobbing master.
"DOH WOWEE," gargled Laurie behind his massively round

cheeks "You til wom!" Floof smiled to himself, he had indeed still won, by getting two apples Laurie hadn't proved anything more except that he really liked apples. "There's still plenty more games for us to play!" continued Laurie after forcefully swallowing the rest of the apples.

Today was the day of the Megaforce Festival or 'MegaFest' run by various members of the Megaforce and hosted by the biggest party animal of them all " Red Bull. When Red Bull had sent Laurie a letter to meet him personally at the Megaforce HQ Laurie nervously accepted, thinking it to be a secret mission or a guild operation of sorts on a massive scale. He was very surprised to find that when he arrived Red Bull was more nervous than he, with red cheeks and diverting his eye contact and muttering something quietly.

>"What?" asked Laurie
"Please" murmured Red bull "Please can you and your guild come to the Megaforce Festival" with a sigh of relief Laurie said they would definitely come, and there was nothing to be worried about.

In a desolate sandy area outside of Wingdom a large wooden stage and a gigantic drum centralised the festival and surrounding it from all sides were stalls for food, souvenirs and festival games. Laurie and Floof ate hot dogs as they browsed the stalls " Laurie had bought Floof's hot dog as an apology for showing him up by getting two apples instead of one in a single dunk. Floof's hot dog was regular and delicious whereas Laurie's had a grotesque amount of mustard on it which he had requested to squirt on himself from the sceptical looking Big Gen operating the hot dog stand. Laurie coughed and spluttered through mouthfuls of mustard as he pointed to one of the stalls where Shot and Aquila were playing a shooting game with water pistols. With perfect precision Shot poured an unshifting stream of water into the clown head's mouth, which filled a balloon of water atop the head slowly; the goal was to continue until the balloon was full to win a prize.

>The game was tense, not because both Shot and Aquila were neck and neck, but because Aquila's balloon was empty and he was faced 90 degrees away from the balloon directly facing Shot and with equal unflinching accuracy was shooting an endless stream of water into the side of Shot's head.
"Are they competing?" whispered Floof to Laurie as they wandered past.

>"Aquila's not." Replied Laurie sourly.
"Uh, the balloons full" said Mike who was running the game stall. Shot kept squirting; the balloon was wobbling with fullness now.

Laurie and Floof shuffled away with their hot dogs to look at the other stalls. Floof looked at all of the "jordanju: wat I miss" and "Manteppp: Amped Messiah" plush toys at a nearby stall whilst a distant pop and splash could be heard then real guns firing angrily. The two returned to the large drum stage in the centre of the festival which acted as a meeting point. There they reunited with Kazeru, Josh, Renshin and Spotpup who sat around with ice blocks, Kazeru was noticeably wearing a yellow medical hard hat with a green cross.

>"Hi guys," said Floof with a friendly tone
"What's with the hat?" asked Laurie immediately, his curiosity loosely taking priority over being polite.

>"Oh this?" replied Kazeru instantly, knocking his knuckles against his hat. "I got this at the Megaforce costume shop, it's just like Big Gen's, he's awesome!"
"We saw him before," shared Floof "he tried to save Laurie's hot dog from a mustard overdose."

>"I never thought Big Gen was your favourite Megaforce member!?" cried Laurie surprised
"I meanâ€|He's not really one of the top fighters like Fabrico or Mike; I can't imagine they'd actively sell merchandise for him."

>"Huhâ€|" sighed Kazeru "No wonder I had to ask for thisâ€|and I got it for free from a first aid box." Josh, Renshin and Spot exchanged glances through their ice blocks.
"I don't think that was meant for costume purposes.." Laurie stated.

>"Hey Laurie.." came a quiet voice from the bottom of the stage steps. Laurie turned around to see Yashako looking shy with her hands together
"Oh hello," said Laurie with a smile "Something wrong?"

>"Oh no...Nothing's wrong...I just got you a present." She uncapped her hands revealing a small plastic keyring "It's an aquamarine keyring, well, not a real one, just the pixelated image of one. I thought you might like it."
"Oh that's cool!" exclaimed Laurie "I'll...Well I don't know what to do with it if I'm being honest." Yashako briefly looked away as if on the verge of tears, but then suddenly stopped as a loud booming beat was made from behind the group. They all spun around looking at the giant drum; It was definitely a slow drumming noise being made, but no one could be seen beating it.

>"It's coming from inside..?!" asked Kazeru in a hushed panicking whisper.<p>

As the drumming grew louder and the beats faster Spot, Josh and Kazeru threw aside their ice blocks to arm themselves, while Renshin attempted to eat his all at once succumbing to serious brain-freeze. Spot with his Celestial Robe, Josh with his Prussian Kaiser and Kazeru with his yatagarasu crow attire the three prepared for battle, while Laurie and Floof protected Yashako and Renshin groaned with a hand on his forehead. The drum burst open with a torrent of wind which had been tightly compressed, everybody's eyes winced shut and yashako's scream could be heard;

>"Val sharks!" Laurie squinted through the wind; blank white eyes through black masks could be seen leering â€" Two Val Shark Members! They were outnumbered significantly but had caught the group by surprise. Fire exploded from the ground before anyone could recover, burning Kazeru, Spot, Josh and Floof to a crisp instantly. Laurie was hasty enough to dodge the flames whereas Renshin was hit full force by the flames but dealt no harm to him â€" in fact it cured his brain-freeze.
"Satanic Glimpse!" cried Laurie as he saw one of the regular looking Val Shark members with glowing claws and horns. Yashako hid behind Renshin, stepping away from the unconscious Floof. "Renshin, protect Yashako!" Laurie shouted

>"Ooo, ah, I dunno, brainfreezeâ€|" muttered Renshin ambling away from Yashako despite apparent sweat on his forehead from the nearby flames.
"VAL SHARK INVASION!" boomed a powerful voice cracking the very ground he stood on; Red Bull appeared as if by magic, but it was more likely that he fell with such weight from higher up that he fell down fast. "MEGAFORCE ASSEMBLE." From various stalls Megaforce members of all shapes and sizes burst out into the Festival's centre: Mike with a grenade launcher, dripping wet from Shot and Aquila's burst water balloon, Jacky Noboru with gauntlets of fire blazing, Mighty with a baseball bat at his shoulder, Fabrico with a lightning blaster and several other recognisable faces, among them the bland-faced Big Gen. The Val Sharks turned to one another in shock "GO MEGAFORCE SOLDIERS!" boomed Red Bull "ATTACCKK!"

As the armed forces bolted forward, Laurie caught a flash of the Val

Sharks masks dropping revealing David and Razz underneath, two of Lunar's older and recognised members.

>"No no wait! It was just a prank!" cried David
"Yeah, stop! It was just- wait st-" and before Razz could say anything more the two were sent flying high into the sky, far, far away. The faint cries of a joking David could be heard before going out of earshot
>"Looks like Val Sharks are blasting off agaaaainnnn..!"<p>

The remainder of the group stood silently, with quiet mumbles from Renshin still claiming to be suffering from brain-freeze and making sure not to be too close to Yashako. Laurie knew the fake Val-Sharks were just two of his guild members joking about, but the Megaforce didn't.

>"Hoorah! Crisis averted!" cheered Jacky "Well it's back to the apple bobbing stand for me, let's resume the MegaFest, huh guys?!"
Laurie sighed a sigh of relief, David and Razz hadn't destroyed any of the stalls or harmed any Megaforce members, only Lunar ones. If anything had happened with Lunar members harming Megaforce ones, even for a bit of fun or as a joke then the two wouldn't be on good terms and mission opportunities would be harder to get " After all, The Megaforce was at the center of it all.

>Suddenly Laurie's heart stopped; Red Bull was looking sternly at him, right in the eyes and wearing a very grim expression. He knew.<p>

"We have to go now Renshin." Muttered Laurie, hoping none of the other Megaforce members would hear.

>"Aaah, brainfreeze-"
"Renshin! We have to go." Renshin stopped flailing about and looked at Laurie and noticed the seriousness of his eyes. This was not the request of a friend, but the order of a leader. Awakening the other guildies and saying hasty goodbyes to Megaforce members, unaware of the false Val Shark invasion, the guild group headed out of the festival.

>Things could end up bad, thought Laurie. Without Megaforce support mission opportunities would lower, Megaforce members aiding in underprepared missions would cease and general WIN income for the guild would decrease. David and Razz got what they deserved but were now nowhere to be seen to fix what they had done. It would be up to Laurie to flesh over the unsettlement between the big organisations of Lunar and Megaforce.<p>

11. Red Bull's Proposition (Mega Op Pt2)

Lunar Antics " Red Bull's Proposition

Ever since the Megaforce Festival incident five days ago where Lunar members David and Razz pretended to be Val Sharks and frightened the Megaforce, Laurie had been on edge as he knew that Red Bull knew it was two Lunar members behind the false surprise attack. If all of the Megaforce found out there could be a loss of partnership and Lunar would no longer receive missions or Megaforce aid.

Laurie sat on the highest-most platform of the guild room, contemplating the guild and it's stability if it lost the right to perform missions.

>"What are you doing up here alone?" came the steady voice of Josh coming up the steps behind him.
"Huh?!" gasped Laurie, taken aback Oh, hello." He was able to muster while trying to give a calm smile

but instead flashing his teeth momentarily before starring off into the distance once more.

>"You look pale.." continued Josh peering closer at Laurie who wiped sweat away from his forehead. "Anyway, the mail icon is flashing," Laurie hadn't even noticed, "Thought I'd just let you knowâ€|If you're sure you're okay I'll be off to do GAT battles now." As Josh turned and headed back down the stairs Laurie muttered quietly;
"Thanks Josh." Pulling out his mobile and skimming the inbox the most recent email stuck out like a sharp thorn â€" 'From Red Bull'

Feeling nauseous Laurie tapped the mail on his screen and read; It simply said 'Meet me in Spin Square.' A private meeting between the two! Surely things could be fleshed over. Without delay Laurie rose from being seated and flashed off, passing the ambling Josh along the way who looked particularly baffled. Lunar WAS NOT trying to sabotage the Megaforce Festival and put the blame on the Val Sharks â€" It was two members pulling a very bad prank and their actions should not represent the entire guild, this had been the case on a rare few occasions. Besides, the entire Megaforce had already beaten both David and Razz so hard that they hadn't been seen since five days ago when the Festival took place!

As Laurie arrived at the foot of Spin Square's entrance steps Red bull could be seen sitting awkwardly on a wooden bench, newspaper in hand and quite obviously trying to be disguised. Although he looked funny Laurie couldn't help but feel the nervous lump in his throat remain solitary, for it was Red Bull himself who requested to see Laurie, and after a five day stagnation, Laurie had no idea how Red Bull felt. Laurie walked on over and sat beside Red Bull

>"Look, before you say anythingâ€|" said Red Bull not moving an inch from his newspaper "I don't feel bad about what happened at all." Laurie sighed a massive sigh of relief, and was about to express his gratitude "However," he continued "I am a little offendedâ€|and hope you can make it up to me with a simple mission."
"I- OH, of course!" burst Laurie longing to speak "I was super worried you were upset and were gonna severe contact with the guild!" Red Bull smirked;

>"Two Val Sharks or screwing around guild members would never upset me. But I figured I'd mess with you a little bit so you'd feel bad and agree to do a mission free of charge with no reward!" Red Bull cackled heartily whilst Laurie felt betrayed, but he wasn't willing to step down from a directly assigned mission regardless "Haha, maybe I shouldn't have told you thatâ€|Anyway, your mission is; I would like you or one of your guild members to take Yashako out, basically take her somewhere nice and-"
"Hold on." Laurie cut in whilst leaning towards Red Bull and closer to the outstretched newspaper "Take Yashako out..?"

>"Yes." Replied Red Bull blankly. "Take her out for dinner, show her the town, do karaoke, whatever â€" I just think it will boost her confidence and hopefully increase her bravery in battle. During the festival all Yashako did when your two guild members tried to attack was scream and hide behind people. I want her to not be like this in the face of danger, you see?!" Laurie did see, but the connection between going on a date and battling was so distant this didn't seem practical.
"Why don't I let Yashako train with Kenshiro for a few sessions, he knows dozens of fighting techniques and strategies, I'm sure it would be absolutely no prob-"

>"My word is final, Moon." interjected Red Bull whilst definitively closing his newspaper. "You're doing me a favour, remember what your

two guild members disguised as Val Sharks did?"
"You just said that didn't upset you too much!"

>"Not too much. But I was still bitterly hurt. Wounded even."
"Fine! Okay!" grumbled Laurie rising from the wooden bench "But I'm having nothing to do with this mission â€" I'll assign a crack team of dating professionals to manufacture the perfect date, and one to execute it." Red Bull nodded swiftly to Laurie's big words and began folding up his paper.

>"So I can expect to see Yashako brimming with confidence by tomorrow?"
"T-t-tomorrow!?" cried Laurie aghast.

>"Mmmâ€|" replied Red Bull mildly
"But it's nearly sunset! We won't have enough time to plan or think about what to do, it will be dark shortly!" Red Bull's head silently rotated to face Laurie

>"Then you better get your crack team of dating professionals togetherâ€|Goodbye, Moon." And with a cheeky wave ill-fitting of the ferocious Megaforce leader, Red Bull had walked down the stone steps and was gone from sight.<p>

12. Operation Restoration (Mega Op Pt3)

Lunar Antics â€" Operation Restoration

'Crack team of dating professionals' was an overstatement thought Laurie as he sat before Renshin, Kazeru, Shot and Josh who were all smiling politely and sitting on foldout chairs. Laurie stared across each and every one of them blankly

>"So what's the plan, leader!" cried Josh enthusiastically. Laurie gazed back uncertain if Josh was serious or sarcastic.
"I dunno," he said "but I'm out."

>"Huh!?" gasped Kazeru "But don't we have to totally score with Yashako as per the mission?!"
"Listen to what you just said once more and see how ridiculous that sentence sound. I am having none of this â€" I'm out." The moment the words left his lips Laurie power-walked out of the guild room and his whereabouts for the rest of the evening remained unknown.

>"Greatâ€|" muttered Shot slumping back into his fold-out chair "What the heck are we gonna do now?"
"Don't worry." Said Kazeru with a thumbs up "I have a plan, but it might be risky, seemingâ€|well, I don't knowâ€|"

>"Well none of us have any other ideas," said Josh with an open arm "let's hear it." Kazeru was still a little unsure, but told the group regardless.<p>

Once the whole group had heard it and understood the risk, they decided to go ahead regardless.

>"So Shot and Josh will be on communications support and talking to you through an earpiece." Said Kazeru to Renshin.
"Black-Ops." stated Josh "Real mature."

>"What? Uhâ€|no that wasn't my aimâ€|" replied Kazeru awkwardly.

"Anyway, Renshin, you pick the place for the date as you will be the one who takes Yashako out."
"Okay!" beamed Renshin with a positive smile

>"But listen Renshin, make it somewhere nice and romantic â€" quiet too, those are the best places to get to know someone; then we can go ahead with our plan a little later."<p>

As Red Bull had said and Laurie had passed on to the four operatives; Yashako needed her confidence boosted by tomorrow and it was already

nightfall. But the four already had this all planned out " The date would be this evening and Yashako would come out of it as a new woman. Renshin met up with Yashako and both were very nervous; the two had never spoken or had any interaction with one another; except for five days prior during the MegaFest attack where Yashako hid behind Renshin and he incompetently pretended to be suffering from brainfreeze in order to not have to protect her. With Josh telling Renshin to shake her hand through his ear piece and Shot shouting in the background to hug her, Renshin instead grabbed her hand and pulled her in for a hug which shortly ended after Yashako squealed out of shock.

>"I thought we could just go somewhere and talk for awhile" said Renshin awkwardly after the two had been walking silently for a while, albeit Shot and Josh talking loudly and munching on potato chips in his ear.
"Oh, sounds good." Smiled Yashako shyly.

>"I got a smile for that..." whispered Renshin into a small microphone pinned under his jacket collar "no thanks from you two"
"HEY." Boomed an unidentifiable peaked and static cry from Renshin's ear "We're eating chips here, just get her somewhere nice and talk to her, then we'll help out!"

>"We're going now, don't talk so loud"
"replied Renshin in a hushed voice, glancing over at Yashako who was looking perplexingly at him.<p>

"Renshin and Yashako entered through the doors of The Club, Wingdom's 24-hour party complex. Music was blasting, crowds everywhere were chattering and dancing and glasses were loudly clanging into one another

>"Hey Renshin! It sounds very loud!" called Josh through the earpiece
"We're at the club!" replied Renshin to his collar, but making it look like he was talking to Yashako.

>"WHAT!" erupted Shot
"Yeah, I can see that." Said Yashako

>"Did I hear the word 'CLUB'!?" continued Shot "We can hardly hear what's going on, take her somewhere else! Get away and RETHINK what you're gonna do!"
"Can I buy you a drink?" asked Renshin mishearing the order.

>"Sure." Replied Yashako, still nervous<p>

"What on earth is happening?!" asked Josh from the passenger seat as he and Shot pulled up outside The Club in an inconspicuous white van

>"It's too loud in there!" replied Shot angrily "I can't make out what they're saying!"
"I'M NOT GOING TO MAKE OUT." Burst Renshin through the speakers, splitting Shot and Josh's eardrums

>"Gaah! Damn it, he can't hear us right either!" shouted Shot unaware of the high volume of his voice "He's only getting small pieces!"
"YOU GUYS HAVE SMALL PENISES." Exploded Renshin once more right up to his microphone.

>"Is there something wrong?" came Yashako's voice quite loudly.
"She must be close beside him!" gasped Josh

>"You've been talking to yourself a lot this evening."
"It's fine" said Renshin, before the microphone cut out and there was pure silence."

>"My god"
"muttered Shot "He's gone rogue."
"Don't worry," said Josh slapping a hand on Shot's shoulder "It sounds as if he got closer to Yashako. I have faith he can make Yashako happy this evening and make her a confident woman!"

"Your lips are as red and ripe as this succulent beverage." Said Renshin before guzzling back a glass of pinot noir.

>"S-Sorry?!" replied Yashako, quickly turning red in the face.
"Your face is too..?" said Renshin uncertainly, trying last minute to make it a sly comment whilst winking and pouring a second glass for himself.

>"I'veâ€|I've never had wine before." Said Yashako bravely trying to change the subject and salvage the situation
"There's a first time for everything..." drooled Renshin

>"MR. RENSHIN!" cried Yashako aghast "I don't like the way you're talking to me!" â€|Wait, what isâ€| Is that a Val Shark?!" Renshin leaned back in his seat smoothly to look across the bar. Operation Restoration: Hero Dynamic had begun as Kazeru dressed as a Val Shark could be seen sneakily tip-toeing around in a comical and obvious fashion.
"It is indeed." Replied Renshin dramatically "I will confront him, no brain-freeze will stop me this time!" Yashako watched wide-eyed in awe as Renshin stood up from his bar stool and staunched on over. "Kazeru..!" Renshin hissed, trying to get his attention. Kazeru spun around genuinely surprised "Let me beat you now so I can look good for Yashako!"

>"Where?!" cried Kazeru annoyingly
"Just anywhere, as long as I look cool and Yashako can see."

>"No, where is Kazeru?!" Renshin was about to question him, but quickly noticed the Val Shark's long red ponytail.<p>

"Oh yeahâ€|" said Kazeru in the guild room a few days prior on a lazy afternoon "I don't think I ever told you that I have an evil twin too."

>"Oh really..?" yawned Renshin disinterested
"Yeah, he's called Nazenu, he's like Anti-Laurie kinda except he's much, much cooler."

Renshin could've sworn Kazeru had made this story up to seem more exciting, but here Nazenu stood, arming himself in an aura Psychic Stilletos

>"You really work for the Val Sharks?" asked Renshin adjusting his Dulce Trachion Claw to his knuckles
"Of course," said Nazenu now hovering a few inches above the ground "anything to serve my fair lady Jorondo." Renshin's heart tightened as he looked back at Yashako who was sitting further away at the bar watching them. 'Shit!' thought Renshin, why did Jorondo have to appear somewhere when he was on a date with someone else?

>"Uhh-" breathed Renshin loudly glancing over at Yashako before gushing "IfyouseeJorondocanyousaythatIamnotdatingher, just..uhhhh, likehelpinghergetconfidence!"
"Pfft!" spat Nazenu "You think Jorondo cares? You think 'I' care?!"

>'Where did the real Kazeru go?' thought Renshin, 'he was meant to pretend to be a val shark, get beaten, and make me a hero!'

"Yo, excuse me!" came the smooth deep voice of L.J, owner and Supersonic DJ of The Club "If you wanna fight, take it outside" he continued, fully ignoring the fact that one of the two was dressed in Val Shark attire.

>"What do you say? A lvl?" said Renshin, weary of the party-goers surrounding them at the bar who were cautiously looking at Nazenu's stilettos, hoping it was just for show.
"Of course," grinned Nazenu with craze flashing in his eyes. "I wouldn't have it any other way."

The two headed towards a door on the far side of the bar which led to a private event space which was not in use this evening. Yashako gasped as she saw the two leaving with their weapons. Yashako hadn't been having the best fun with Renshin and could've slipped out, but

as she saw them going off for a certain battle she couldn't help but feel her Megaforce instinct take over. She rushed off behind them to cheer Renshin on and make sure that he was safe.

13. Scuffle Round Back (Mega Op Pt4)

Lunar Antics " Scuffle Round Back

Out into the freezing late night air, Nazenu with his psychic stilettos and Renshin with his Dulce Trachion Claw prepared to battle. The outside space was scarce and littered with dead leaves from the four trees on each corner of the space. A drunk Aquila sat lazily on a park bench under one of the trees, un-attentive and eating plain slices of bread in an attempt to sober up. Pigeons were at his feet peaking the crumbs, one fully in his lap getting first servings.

"Hey, you!" called Nazenu. Aquila's head rolled to face where the sound came from, but he wasn't quite mentally present. "Get out of here, we're about to battle!"
"I am outside." replied Aquila with realisation and through a stifled burp "They told me to sober up before going back in I didn't get kicked out AND I'M NOT DRUNK."

"Fine, stay then." Said Nazenu bitterly
"I'M NOT DRUNK." Bellowed Aquila once more, attempting to rise from his seat and frightening the pigeons away before collapsing back down and instantly falling fast asleep.

"Pfft, he probably needed some sleep" said Renshin to himself with a smile, turning back to Nazenu. Renshin was terrified to see he was no longer there; In a panic he scouted the trees and the whole area but he was nowhere to be seen. Then at lightning speed one of the Psychic stilettos came spinning towards Renshin, but well-prepared for a sneaky ranged attack Renshin dived to his right, dodging the dagger. Popping his head out of one of the trees Nazenu smirked and with a flick of his fingers the flying knife glimmered purple, manipulated by Nazenu's order. Still diving out of the way, unable to shift his mid-air trajectory, the knife curved toward Renshin and with a clean hit pierced his chest. Renshin shrieked out in agony as his shoulder impacted the ground as he failed the landing. Gliding down from the tree, Nazenu cackled loudly

"That was easier than I thought it would be!" he said as he grinned menacingly. With an outstretched foot Nazenu turned Renshin onto his front, but without notice Renshin was still loaded with energy and leapt up, his claw outstretched and flaming. Taken by surprise Nazenu flew vertically upwards and with a violent thrust of his arm, all the remaining stilettos rained down on Renshin who darted around clutching his injured chest. The trees were scraped at the sides as Renshin weaved about the whole space, finally taking refuge behind the snoring Aquila. A rogue stiletto hailed down right into Aquila's thigh, waking him up in an enraged stupor.

"OOOOOOOUUUAaaaaaARGGHHH!" Renshin still hiding behind the bench, wide-eyed and light-headed on account of the blood loss didn't dare reveal himself " Aquila's problem now, he thought grimly. "WHO THREW THAT?!" slurred Aquila through pained and drunken blood-shot eyes. "KAZERU, YOU LIL' BITCH" Nazenu who had been watching blankly had halted the rotation of his stillettos which just dangled in the air.
"I am not Kazeru, I am his evil-"

"SHUUUTT UP." Blurted Aquila with a stagger from the bench and

drawing his sacrifice reaper scythe from his back "I've-HIC-been meaning to yank that ponytail off and cellotape it to the guild bulletin board for a while now to show off my power" "My hair is RED!" cried Nazenu furiously "Kazeru's is BLUE! Urgh, this is bullshit, I don't have time for this" spiralling both of his arms his stilettos soared over to Aquila who stumbled about in a drunken mess. As Aquila sauntered over to Nazenu, every single blade missed him completely "As Aquila didn't know what he was doing himself Nazenu couldn't read him and predict his movements

>"Wait! Get back!" cried Nazenu helplessly as Aquila brandished his scythe high above his head. Nazenu flapped his hands around pathetically, trying to send more stillettos out, however he had finally exhausted his supply of them which lay on the ground several metres out of his psychic range.

"Ohh-haha-HIC-hahahaha, nice try!" gasped Aquila through hiccups "Now I'm gonna slice off that ponytail!"

>"No!" cried Nazenu "It's my power source, please no!" Aquila's eyes suddenly drooped to look very lacklustre, he wobbled overtop of Nazenu, losing grip of his scythe. Renshin shielded his eyes, he couldn't watch, Nazenu would get a counterattack and then he would be next! He expected to hear a large thud to the ground, but instead boomed the most massive burp and vomit projectile Renshin had ever heard, which shook the ground and made the bench he hid behind vibrate out of control. Renshin quickly opened his eyes and turned around to witness Aquila bent down in an arch to be right up in Nazenu's face "he had taken the full impact, waft and splatter of it. Renshin caught sight of the white of Nazenu's eyes "completely unconscious and mildly sick.

"Whoa! Great way to beat him Aquila!" called Renshin rising from behind the bench, but it was too late for praise, Aquila had seemingly burped and spewed out the entire being out of his body and slowly keeled over beside Nazenu, equally unconscious.

Renshin watched on in shock, crisis averted from a genuine Val Shark assault. Renshin sighed away his tension, relaxing his shoulders.

>"Don't lower your guard yet, Ahohohoho!" came a shrill high pitch giggle. Leaping down from one of the tall trees encircling the outside venue space, came the one and only Jorondo; The Val Sharks' haughty beauty. Renshin was struck by Cupid's arrow as he could barely articulate a single sentence, let alone a word. "Well done on beating my cohort, I saw the whole thing!" Renshin remained unable to speak, and this was perhaps for the better as he would've pointed out she wasn't watching at all as he hadn't done anything "Nazenu and I were planning on a silent robbery of this club "No one ever robs a thriving club during prime business hours." Drawing a western holster 6-barrel revolver from her hip and closing one eye she aimed it straight to Renshin's head "just give the bartender a glance of this, get him to unload the cash without causing a scene, no harm to anyone." Renshin wasn't listening now as he himself was feeling like he could unload; he couldn't stop picturing Jorondo with a cowboy hat and looking alluring.

"Ahohohoo!" shrieked Jorondo once more "Not saying anything? Well, it was nice meeting you but I'm afraid it's time for farewells!"

>"I LOVE YOU." Burst Renshin uncontrollably. Jorondo was taken aback, loosening the grip on her gun

"w-Wait.." she said squinting her eyes "I know you" yeah, we met at that party I crashed." Renshin was ecstatic as he squealed quietly to himself "Jorondo was referring to the time he and Laurie attended Yashako's house party and Renshin, in a failed pickup attempt, fumbled onto the ground. "You can't seem

to hold your own against anything." She continued, western holster in hand and once again straight at Renshin's head "it's not like you ruined that party for me or anything, it was a shit party to begin with."

>"Take that back!" Yashako herself burst out of the double doors leading to the outside courtyard looking positively fuming "It took me a long time to invite everyone to that party and I won't have anyone slander it! Or..Or..!" Yashako blushed and shyly held her hands close to her chest "Or ruin my date!" Renshin was swelling with pride, his charm was a success after all! Or at least he thought it was " Instead of saving Yashako from Kazeru disguised as a fake Val Shark, real Val Sharks had shown up and Yashako was the one doing the saving! Reverse Plan Hero!"
>"What are you gonna do, Lil' missy?" sneered Jorondo changing her revolver's aim. Drawing a large, vicious looking hexmesser knife from her pocket, contrasting to the soft delicate nature of the wielder, Yashako clenched her teeth and squinted sinisterly
>"I'm going to wreck you." She said boldly.<p>

14. Final Confrontation (Mega Op Pt5)

Lunar Antics " Final Confrontation

Jorondo opened fire and at equal speed to the bullets Yashako threw her knife, splitting several bullets in two and disorienting their fired pathway. Yashako vanished in a blur and appeared behind Jorondo in midair kicking her in the head, square and savagely into the ground. The concrete and dirt splintered upward in a three-metre radius and Jorondo was annihilated in that single slam, her clothes ripped, her teeth bleeding and her hair dishevelled. Jorondo had been outmatched, and Yashako's overkill strength had seemingly come from nowhere.

>"Noooo!" cried Renshin as he ran into the ruins to be with Jorondo. Yashako landed with a soft tap and smiled cheekily at Renshin.
"Thanks for bringing out my confident side." She said to him "Shall we continue our date somewhere"more private?"

>"You're heartless!" cried Renshin, tears forming in his eyes "How could you do this to an innocent, pure and gorgeous woman such as-" Slam.
Renshin lay unconscious beside Jorondo, mentally and physically destroyed.

>"That's the last time I sign up for a blind date with a Lunar member!" grumbled Yashako wiping dirt from her dress and stepping out of the disintegrated ground formed by her foot. "Next time I'll choose someone myself"maybe"Dolores..?" Yashako left out the back entrance to the private function space thinking about her ideal partner.<p>

"

"The Val Sharks couldn't have tried to attack at a better time then!" said Laurie gleefully through a mouthful of jam on toast to Renshin, Shot, Jordon and Aquila who sat opposite him. It was the morning after Operation Restoration and the five had come to Laurie's MyRoom for breakfast and a mission debrief; or just breakfast in Aquila's case. "I'm still a little confused on the details, but mission accomplished! Good job Renshin, taking out both Jorondo and that Kazeru-looking guy"Nazenu was it?"

>"Yes, that's right, and thank you Laurie" said Renshin awkwardly whilst glancing over at the very hungover Aquila
"We found Aquila

unconscious" said Josh casually sprinkling pepper onto his eggs "We had to take a look around The Club for Renshin and Kazeru after we weren't contacted for an hour, and Aquila was just lying in the outside private event area, Renshin too but very badly injured. No sign of Nazenu and Jorondoâ€|

>"So Renshin beat both Jorondo and that Nazenu then, huh?" asked Shot suspiciously with a mug of hot cocoa.
"Yes, that's how it went down." Said Josh "but from their absence they must've been rescued just before we arrived, you saw the courtyard too, Shot"

>"Well, I heard from L.J and a few other people I interrogated afterward that Yashako herself whooped Jorondo AND Renshin with next to no effort." Renshin had been sneakily shuffling away to the corner of his seat. "They all saw it from inside the club, also Aquila beat that Kazeru-looking guy Nazenu while Renshin cowered in fear after a single non-lethal hit." Laurie raised an eyebrow
"If that's all true thenâ€|Renshin are you lyingâ€|Uhhh" Renshin had vanished from the table and was nowhere to be seen in Laurie's room; also the cereal was missing.

>"Wellâ€|The point is Yashako is much more confident now I hope, and that's what Red Bull wanted so our alliance can continue!"
"I BEAT KAZERU?!" bellowed Aquila reacting incredibly slowly

>"No, an evil twin of him or something" said Laurie taking a sip of coffee moodily "I'm glad the real Kazeru didn't show up to pretend to be a Val Shark, that's what started this mess to begin with!"
"Exactly!" exclaimed Josh whilst putting bacon onto Laurie's plate in an attempt to calm him down "It was Kazeru's idea anywayâ€|By the way where is he? We never saw him this whole time."

>"I'll tell you what happened!" came the cracked voice of Kazeru, who approached the group in tattered clothes, blood in his hair and a limp in his walk "Some Val Sharks kidnapped me and tried to sabotage the operation! They sent in Nazenu to ruin everything and kill Renshin and Yashako!"
"Are you sure?" said Laurie curiously munching on bacon "Are you sure Nazenu wasn't just you all alongâ€|?"

>The silence was deadly.
"WELL, Renshin and Yashako were safe in the end," he continued "there's no more loose ends to tie up so can we stop this stupid 'ARC' or whatever this has become so I can write something new?" and Manteppp agreed so the whole guild had a celebration party with the Megaforce with cake, snacks, meat and all sorts. Red Bull and Laurie shared a pint cheerfully and laughed loudly, Renshin apologised to Yashako who shrugged him off to return to talking to Dolores, her guest to the celebration party much to Renshin's shock. Kenshiro and Fabrico meditating peacefully to themselves, but being irritated by the others presence and Kazeru, Shot and Josh had an unplanned eating contest and excitedly stuffed their faces with warm bread, beef, strawberry pudding, soup, chicken drumsticks and much more all at the same time. The rest of the guild were all enjoying themselves to the fullest, even Aquila who had recovered slightly but was still incredibly tired.

When everyone had reached a level of tiredness nowhere near as bad as Aquila's they gradually headed off to bed one by one and Gillman took the Megaforce crew home by helicopter, with the exception of Mike who had brought a pump-up mattress and sleeping bag and wanted to stay the night. It had been a great Festival, Operation and Party, and with no doubt the whole affair had brought the two organisations of Megaforce and Lunar even closer together.

The End

15. Dr Diaper's Daily Assistant

"What are you doing zoning out over there!" squeaked the bossy intellectual baby Dr Diaper "I said hand me the wrench!" Floof snapped out of his stupor and handed him the wrench
>"Sorryâ€|" he muttered; Floof was braindead bored, it was a sunny day and surely everyone in the guild would be taking advantage of that with friendly GAT battles or missions on Megaforce's behalf who were now on very good terms with Lunar having turning Yashako into a masterful fighter and from David and Razz still nowhere to be seen.<p>

And yet, what was Floof doing? Passing the odd tool to Dr Diaper and not actually putting in any technical input?

>"Why me?!" exclaimed Floof to Laurie a few hours prior in the guild room
"Because it's high time you did us all a solid," said Laurie attempting to bargain whilst lounging in a deck chair with a banana in hand.

>"I've drawn pictures of you and the guildies, I participated in a tournament, Laurie, I've done stuff! Why not let Aquila help Dr Diaper instead," Floof cried pointing over to Aquila by one of the big guild trees who was in a deep sleep and still rather hungover."he hasn't done anything lately except get drunk in the previous chapters!"
"Chaptersâ€|?" murmured Laurie "Wellâ€|okay, you might be right â€" but it's already arranged, Dr Diaper is expecting you."

>"Oh come on!" Floof continued, irritatingly "Just swap us!"
"Argh! That's enough" shouted Laurie indefinitely tossing down his banana peel. "My word is final."
>And that was that.<p>

Floof had no idea why Dr Diaper had suddenly requested Lunar's assistance in helping upgrade his Mix 54 Machine

>"Your accthessorys alwayths need upgrading!" babbled the baby through his giant pacifier "Tho doeth my machine! Now get me my threwdriver!" Floof passed Dr Diaper a screwdriver without saying a word "No thtupid! The threwdriver!" Diaper cried angrily pointing at a strange contraption with a mechanical hand attached to it. Floof stared out the window longingly whilst Dr Diaper's device threw hammers at a rogue nail. The grass was green and lush, daisies and daffodils scattered the fields outside in a glimmer of bright yellow and right in the middle of it, walking briskly up to the window was fellow guild member Josh.<p>

Ironclad with armor and a metallic visor Josh looked intimidating and must be here for a reason. Before Floof could awkwardly utter 'hello' so Josh could hear but Dr Diaper couldn't, Josh had drawn his gigantic Prussian Kaiser axe and was swinging it backward and charging up a blow

>"G-GET DOWN!" screamed Floof in shock as he tackled Dr Diaper to the floor.
"Ow! What are you doing to me!" cried Diaper before catching a scarce glimpse of the armored figure slamming down a fully charged strike at the window and surrounding wall in an explosion of fire and debris.

As the dust and smoke from the blazing axe ceased Josh spoke
>"I'm here to get you outta here." and gave Floof a hand
"You destroyed my wall!" cried Dr Diaper through tears

>"Get Laurie to pay and fix it." smirked Josh
"or get him to fix it himself." Added Floof spitefully

>"Tho, you're leaving" said Dr Diaper avoiding eye contact "I don'th need you anywayâ€| A machine can do your job, I have one for it already."
"Why even get a person to help you then?!" asked Floof, shocked at the unnecessary meaning of his assistance.

>"I juthâ€|I juth need company" whimpered Dr Diaper through tears, now rolling off his cheeks. Floof and Josh felt bad for the little guy, he was only a baby after all, and alone working in the lab all the time.
"I'm sorry, Dr Diaper." Said Floof "But if you want friends you should try being nicer â€" especially to people helping you or doing you a favour!" Dr Diaper looked up tearfully

>"C'monâ€|" said Josh with a sigh, taking off his metallic visor and revealing his wide friendly eyes "Let's all go get a drink."
"Oh, no thanks" said Floof remembering the state of Aquila this morning. "I don't think Dr Diaper would be allowed in anywayâ€|" he added with a whisper so only Josh could hear.

>"I meant we could get a milk." Josh replied. Floof's eyes lit up
"Oooo! Yes!" he cried "The Milk Bar at the Wharf Bay Beach has been completely done up and reopened! Let's go there, some guildies might've already headed over to the beach too." And so with Dr Diaper in tow, Josh and Floof helped soften him down and relax with a nice glass of milk and a refreshing day at the beach.

16. Ice Cream: REBORN! (Ice Cream Pt1)

Unbeknownst to the guild Laurie had been renovating the Secret Wharf Bay's Ice Cream Shack. Ever since the crisis with Anti-Laurie it had been an even bigger ruin than it originally was; But Laurie got in there quick hiring various Megaforce members to ait with construction. It gave Laurie a slight satisfaction hiring Megaforce members for a 'mission' instead of the other way around as was usually the case. Upon it's reveal Laurie sent out a mass invitation to the guild to come on down and try the new ice creams, scientifically enhanced in flavour by Fabrico for maximum deliciousness. Gillman as Heli-Transporter was working overtime taking people from the Lunar guild room ovetop of the Wharf and over the to the Golden Bay â€" Even Aquila who couldn't wait to eat ice cream was requested to help with transport despite being quite fresh to flying a helicopter.

When the majority of the people had arrived Funneh wearing a straw boater and cherry pink blazer served up the ice creams for everyone to dig in. Renshin went straight for the cookies and cream, Laurie for the strawberry yogurt and Original, who had been sorely losing a lot of battles recently sat up at the bar and said;

>"Get me a rumâ€|"
"We only have rum and raisin." Replied Funneh scooping chocolate ice cream into a bowl for Pip who despite his recent name change was still a dog.

>"Well then it better be strong rum!" cried Original snatching up the scooper and helping himself.
"Umâ€|" said Kiro popping up at the bar nervously

>"Yoooo Kiro, what is it?" said Funneh, allowing Original to shovel ice cream directly into his mouth.
"Spotâ€|I mean Pip is having a problem of some sort." Sure enough Pip was shaking about on the floor uncontrollably

>"What?!" gasped Funneh "Did something go wrong with the recipe?! WHO POISONED THIS?!"
"Oh, did you give him chocolate?" said Laurie

casually pointing and slopping ice cream across his face. "Dogs can't tolerate chocolate, he needs medical attention."

>"Get that scooper ready!" cried Aquila gleefully as he burst in through the door "Because I am finished flying the helicopter for the day and I- hey, what's wrong with him?" Aquila had only just noticed the writhing Pip right by his foot.
"You're not done yet," said Laurie laying down his spoon seriously "Please get Pip back to the guildroom for some medical attention."

>"Pff, I don't care" scoffed Aquila approaching the bar for some cookie dough ice cream.
"Just grab yourself a tub and have the ice cream while you go! Bargained Laurie "Pip might die! C'mon!"

>"Do you know how hard it is to fly a helicopter?" said Aquila taking a mouthful of ice cream "besides, I brought my force remover with me, I can cure him with that." Out of a tiny pocket from Aquila's jeans thudded the giant medical contraption with vials of fluid and needles ready to become projectiles at the pull of a trigger.
"YOU'RE NOT USING THAT!" roared Renshin with conviction and rising from his bar stool

>"Why not?!" said Aquila flicking ice cream in Renshin's direction.
"Whether it be crippling my attacks or trying to aid me on the same team, but edging me instead â€" you have NEVER been helpful with that weapon!"

>"It's true," said Funneh adjusting his straw boater and adding his two cents "It heals you, but it forces you to sleep for awhileâ€"|"
"Hey Laurie," piped up Kiro "Why not get Funneh to help somehow, he won the Fill-In Doctor Battle we organised, right?"

>"No, no, you're thinking of Skepy." Said Laurie
"Yeah," replied Funneh "I'm the Whip Mast-"

>"Okay, that's enough Funneh."
"Dominatr-"

>"That's enough Funneh!"
"So it's decided, I'm using the Force Remover." Said Aquila ditching the ice cream and drawing his weapon

>"Don't you dare!" shouted Renshin "If you fire the wrong needle you mind send Pip over the edge!"
"Psssh, how am I supposed to edge him, we're inside."

>"No! I mean KILL him!"
"Just lemme shoot a few needlesâ€"|"

>"Why don't you ever listen! Everyone is saying don't fire!"
"He'll just go to sleep and he'll wake up again"

>"THIS is why you were kicked out of the Bunny Renegades!"
"OH, fuck! That is LOW, maybe I should fire needles at you instead!"

>"YOU GUYS SHUT UP." Laurie's outcry reverberated throughout the shop. Pip's breathing could be heard faintly, very fast and sharp "Stop bickering, Pip is in danger and what we need right now is a proper doctor."

>"Did someone say 'Doctor?!'" with a clang from the far side of the room a spoon was dropped into a sundae glass which was murky from dried up cream and milk â€" whoever this was they had seemingly been drinking very slowly, or worse had been there for an extended period.

<p>

17. Medical Profethional (Ice Cream Pt2)

With the spoon out of his mouth and his pacifier back in place, the usual voice of Doctor Diaper returned;

>"THO-" he spat "you guyth need a qualified doctor? Lucky I'm here!"
"But why are you here?" Laurie asked with contained

resentment "I thought I sent Floof to help you with repairs or something."

>"Thath right!" grinned Dr Diaper leaving his seat and showing his short baby-height "but we dethided to come here inthtthead." Laurie looked over to the far side of the room to Floof and Josh who sipped their milkshakes through straws and looked as if they bitterly regretted their decision, for they had learnt 'once a bossy baby, always a bossy baby.'
>"We're not gonna let you do anything to him" said Laurie indicating towards Pip "You may be a doctor but you're still a baby, it's risky."

>"Uhh, Laurie" muttered Kironaka "Original's out cold â€" literally." An ice cream overdose had rendered Original unconscious; whether from the sickly sweet "cream" from the ice cream or from alcohol poisoning from the miniscule portions of rum that had added up nobody knew. "Oh and Pip's stopped breathing." With dull half-opened eyes and a limp tongue poking out Pip was motionless and could only be described as "a little bit dead."
>"Time ith of the ethenth!" cried Dr Diaper pulling out a small green medical bag "You there, ith that a forth remover?"

>"Huh," grunted Aquila absent-mindedly still with the contraption in his hands "No this is a force remover."
>"Forth remover! Yeah! Thath what a thaid!"

>"Is this going where I think it's goingâ€"|" mumbled Renshin who was fuming.
>"We can uthe that! Come here and follow my inthtruchtions! I'll mikth up thome chemicalth and create a candy-loving bacteria that should counter-act the chocolate in hith body."

>"And with the force remover Aquila can administrate it?" asked Laurie who gathered around the others by Pip and Original.
>"Yeth," replied Dr. Diaper pulling out several vials of liquid ready for mixing "Right, leth begin."

>"What about Original!" cried Kiro who was now progressively worried.
>"Oh he'th juth coma'd out. Give him thome thleeping therum and he'll recover quickly." Aquila aimed the force remover at Original;

>"Oh whoops" he said before firing the wrong needle at

Original
>"That was on purpose!" cried Renshin

>"So deliberate!" yellow Kiro equally shocked
>"Cool." Grinned Laurie dumbfounded as Original's legs glowed red with electrical currents then returned to normal.

>"When he wakes up he won't be able to walk." Said Aquila as if telling a funny joke
>"He knew exactly what was going to happen, he basically admitted it!" cried Renshin

>"Don't mean to interrupt you guys" said Funneh from behind the counter "but Pip hasn't been breathing for quite some time now." He then resumed scooping ice cream to other guildies who hadn't bothered to involve themselves despite a life being at stake.
>"Okay that's enough goofing around." Said Aquila light-heartedly giving Kiro a wink

>"Joking?!" cried Renshin more hysterically than ever "These are life and death matters! Holy crap! Get it togethe-"
>"Whoops." Cut-in Aquila before firing the same leg-paralysing serum at Pip.

The group was silent as the red sparks flickered then ceased around Pip's legs. Renshin was beyond furious by this point and couldn't articulate a single word properly.

>"Have a snickers, bro." said Funneh sliding a tub of snickers ice cream across the counter to Aquila "You're not you when you're hungry." With his free hand Aquila desperately attacked the ice cream with a newly acquired spook and wolfed it down. "Better?" asked Funneh
>"Better." Sighed Aquila resting his spoon down "Quick

Diaper, give me the chocolate antidote."

>"That's it?" said Renshin furrowing his eyebrows "Aquila just wanted ice cream so bad that he was acting up?"
"Not difficult to understand." Said Kiro nodding

>"I'm like that too if I don't get a bit of sugar in me" chuckled Laurie. The bright yellow serum was passed over from Dr Diaper to Aquila. Renshin watched angrily as Aquila finally loaded the force remover with the right vial and held his finger at the correct trigger
"All right, here goes!" said Aquila as he carefully aimed the device "10!9!8!"

>"PIP'S DEAD, JUST SHOOT!" roared Renshin as he forced Aquila's hand to pull the trigger. A needle shot out and pierced Pip's chest
"GAAAAH" he yelped waking suddenly "My heart is on fire!" his body thrashed about except for his legs

>"Urgh, what's all the noise!" came a sleepy Original's voice "Hey, why can't I feel my- I can't move my legs!"
"Yeah, Aquila's responsible for that," grinned Funneh looking a little tired "You guys want more ice cream?"

>"Urrrrrg!No more for me thanks" groaned Original lying back down and clapping a hand over his eyes
"I'll have some!" said Pip cheerfully raising his arms up to the counter "chocolate please!"

>"NOOOOOO!" boomed the entire ice cream shack.<p>

"Hey Aquila," snarled Renshin sternly "have another snickers, bro." he flicked the top of his full spoon of ice cream like a slingshot and a perfect orb of snickers ice cream fired at Aquila's cheek

>"OH! Bastard!" cried Aquila wiping his cheeky vigorously "Hey! Have some more of your flakes of shit cookies and cream!"
"Ice cream fight!" giggled Kiro dashing over to Floof and Josh and thrusting their heads into their own ice cream tubs

>"WHAT DID I EVEN DOOOO!" moaned a very grumpy Floof. As spoonfuls of ice cream hailed down all over the shack with Funneh screaming for cease fire ("I have to clean all this up later, OI!") Laurie watched on with arms folded and a wide grin sprawled across his face.
"You're welcome" said Dr. Diaper sassily as he walked on by with a cone of vanilla ice cream towards the exit

>"Thanks a lot, Doctor. Really, thank you" said Laurie
"Hmm, I wath going to hire the Megaforth but I gueth Lunar oweth me a favour now!" said Doctor Diaper as he stopped just beside the door

>"Well, what do you need?" asked Laurie.
"I won't go into detail but I've uncovered a new dungeon underneath Wingdom and I need thomeone to go and ekthplore it. Could be thome valuble rethourtheth or ancient technology down there." Laurie raised an eyebrow sceptically

>"That sounds like quite a difficult mission for merely returning a favour for saving a guildie!" You should've just done it because you knew what to do as a Doctor!" The little baby smirked behind his massive pacifier
"Whatever we find down there you and your guildies can keep. There ith only one thing in the whole dungeon that I want."

>"Which is?" Dr. Diaper resumed his walk and headed toward the door
"Never you mind, come and thee me when you're ready to take on the dungeon."

With ice creams of all colours and flavours soaring and happy guildies in the midst of a light-hearted battle Laurie watched Dr. Diaper go; what would they find in this mysterious dungeon and what

was the single thing that he wanted? As Dr. Diaper touched the doorknob he was knocked backwards as someone on the other side kicked it so hard the door was torn clean off of it's hinges and Diaper was sent flying. Gosei the cat stood there grinning insanely and holding an empty barrel of 20 litres worth of ice cream
>"WAT I MISS?!"<p>

18. Draw Mechanics

Aquila had always wondered how the lucky draws worked. How they were always so full that you couldn't see the exact numbers of what colour balls there were, or how they were restocked because no one had ever seen this happen. After a complete 72 hour stakeout for three days straight Aquila's eyes were like wax, his lips chapped and his muscles constricted. He'd seen several attempts at all of the draws but tens of thousands at the pink Win draw which had a new limited edition accessory up for grabs.

>"There is no way that tiny draw can fit that many balls." snapped Aquila insanely to no one. He had finally cracked and lost his mind as he withdrew his gigantic Sacrifice Reaper Scythe. "I'll smash it up and the secrets should pour out!"
"I wouldn't do that if I were youâ€|" came a cool calculated voice from Aquila's shoulder . He turned to his left but no one was there "Other shoulder," mocked the voice who had moved since the first time. Mokoalw stood to the right side of him with his arms folded and a knowing smile. His slit-like eyes hiding his eye-colour and true expression always disturbed some of the guildies or made them very curious, but to Aquila he couldn't care less about that.

>"How long were you behind me?" asked Aquila simply to make conversation but not really caring.
"Not long." Replied Moko vaguely "But I've seen you here for the past three days. Trying to figure out the draws, I presume?"

>"How did you know?!" quipped Aquila suddenly
"Because Laurie once requested me to do the same thing on account of an Aquamarine blunder." Aquila shifted his attention back to the draws

>"How long did it take you to figure out?" he asked while not looking at Moko "Not because I want to know or anything but just becauseâ€|" Aquila trailed off.
"Not long." Said Moko as vaguely as before.

>"Hey! C'mon just tell me!" cried Aquila spinning around and losing his cool "I mean uh, well if you don't want to tell me then I'llâ€|" Aquila trailed off.
"it took me three days if you must know" he answered "Oh, hey, that's as long as you've taken so far..!" Moko's false surprise wasn't fooling Aquila, he knew where this was going "If you take any longer then we could say I've beaten you, right?" If it was a competition Moko wanted then a competition he'd get.

Aquila looked back at the draws blankly where he saw Shadow-kin furiously shouting as dozens of tomahawks poured out of a small blue ball â€" how they fit inside there was anyone's guess, perhaps the same way as how the balls fit into the draw..?

>"Do you need a hint?" said Moko. Gosei could soon be seen depositing all of his Win at a rapid pace into the pink draws and Funneh watching in awe. As balls filed out Gosei paid no attention to them and raced on. Aquila's attention focused onto the centre of the machine where the quantity of balls was unaffected as always. How was it stocking itself?
"You need to use your imagination with this one" said Moko grinning "think outside the box." Was this the hint?

>"Shut up Moko I'm thinkingâ€|" grumbled Aquila in response. Kathy was busy talking to customers and wandering about the Prime Market, surely she had nothing to do with the draws refilling. Maybe they all restocked the same way and therefore were connected by something in common. Then suddenly it hit him like a bag of bricks; If only he hadn't focused so hard on the very middle of the draw, all the people and things surrounding it or how the balls looked unchanged he would've seen it sooner
"Those four prongs." said Aquila scratching his chin. "What exactly is underneath these draws, or under the Prime Marketâ€|"

>"Wellâ€|" said Moko in an impressed tone "Rou, the Dojo robot who can be programmed to fight in certain ways or to be a test dummy can actually be programmed to sort lucky draw balls. A conveyor belt takes- Actuallyâ€|I can show you the whole mechanics behind the draws if you like?"
"No thanks," said Aquila standing up and rubbing his eyes "I don't even want to know anymore, and I'm really tired."

'Sometimes a mystery is more appealing in the long run' thought Aquila as he walked down the escalator and headed away from the draws

>"I thought you wanted to know! You've been here three days!" called Moko down from the balcony. Yawning and stretching Aquila said nothing, but once out of earshot he mumbled aloud to himself
"I'm sure I can use my imagination."

19. Gosei's Picnic

**A few weeks earlierâ€|**

Floof was set for a lazy day in the guild room and possibly designing a new skin outfit for himself, however his plans were quickly put to a halt by Gosei the cat rushing past him, bawling his eyes out and moaning deeply out of sadness. This was very out of the ordinary for Floof who had never seen a cat cry before â€" and doubted if anyone had. Floof turned back in the direction Gosei had come from; Laurie could be seen strolling suspiciously away from where Gosei had been

>"Oi!" called Floof "Laurie, where do you think you're going!"
"Urgh, leave it Floof." Groaned Laurie who continued walking without turning around in the slightest "This is just between me and Gosei."

>"I don't think so!" cried Floof dashing up and gripping Laurie's shoulder to spin him around. Laurie winced as the ironclad fingers poked at his collar bone. "Making another guild member cry? That's not veryâ€|Huh?" Laurie's face was equally sad, glassy eyes and a shivering lip "You're crying too!? It wasn't my grip was it? C'mon talk to me."
"Gosei offered free food for me and some of the guildies â€" he's gonna have a picnic." Floof's sympathy towards Laurie dropped in a flash;

>"Where was my invite."
"but I had to turn him down!"

>"Yeah, but where was my inviteâ€|Wait, why?" Laurie looked regrettably toward the ground, like a vicious poison had spread across the guild and wiped out everyone he knew.
"Heâ€|He wanted to have the picnic on a mountain top."

>"PFFT!" spat Floof "Well that sounds perfectly fine!"
"GREAT AVYON!"

Floof trembled at the very hearing of the word. He had heard loads of

horror stories about it " It's overpopulation of fighters looking for an easy kill by swatting someone off the edge several times until they didn't come back up, then claiming their victory as "skill." This alone was enough to frighten Josh, but the thought of trying to have a peaceful picnic in that setting was inconceivable.

>"Sooo Gosei was crying because you didn't wanna go along with him?" asked Floof.
"Yeah, and I was..." Laurie paused "wasn't crying butâ€|because I'll miss out on free food."

>"Laurie, just don't worry about it. They're not gonna get any peace at the end of the day. Maybe Gosei just didn't know or something." Laurie bitterly ignored eye contact with Floof.
"Hey, c'mon, I know what'll cheer you right up " BOOZE. It's nearly New Year's after all, so let's celebrate. I know a great place in the top right of the Prime Market."

>"They don't sell alcohol in the Prime Marketâ€|" replied Laurie confusingly "It's too busy, you'd have to go down a side street or something for that."
"Nope, they have a sign out front advertising red wine and everything."

>"Aren't you underage?"
"You're not."

>"Oh, okay"
"Let's go!" and with a spring in his step Floof lead the slightly cheered up Laurie out of the Guild Room to get a tasty beverage.

BUT MEANWHILE,

"Deep fried chicken drumsticks! Sticky Buns! Fruit Salad! Sausage Rolls! Lasagne!" Gosei's boasting was endless, he had stocked up so much WIN from battles and missions that he felt like doing a nice thing for everyone before Christmas "And- perfect and ripe for the season!- A holiday ham!" Before the group of drooling guildies could feast their hungry eyes on the ham a strong kick from a passer-byer had booted the ham right off the edge of the mountain

>"LMAO, noob" spouted the random dull-faced teen who had disrupted the introduction
"No ganging!" called another random fighter who trampled all over the fruit salad in chase.

>"I one-hit killed that guy though, it wasn't gang cause I wasn't fighting uuou.
"THAT 'GUY' WAS MY HAM!" roared guild member Aquila who had attended the picnic

>"*OUR* ham!" corrected Gosei "It's fine it's fine, we have loads more fo-"

>"Seriously, that whole damn ham is gone now " I'm gonna teach that asshole a lesson" Aquila inexplicably rolled up his sleeves, drew his Sacrifice Reaper and gave chase to the two delinquents who had been battling close by
"Better make it a 2v2, Aquila!" called after Original who picked up his Alastor's Rage blade and tagged behind "Otherwise they'll keep complaining"

>"Noooo guys don't worry ab-" the entire tray of eight sausage rolls scattered over the cliff edge as another random fighter kicked it aside
"OMG, did anyone see that?! I killed 8 guys in one hit?! Did anyone see that..? Hello?"

>Rising from sitting on the picnic blanket Gosei unleashed a massive uppercut onto the chin of the random fighter who rebounded upward and fell over the edge of Great Avyon.
"You bastards ruined my picnic for the last time! I spent good money on all of this! ALL of my win!"

>"It's fine, Gosei" said Kironaka calmly who was still sitting cross legged in front of an empty plate "You can treat us to a Christmas surprise another time"
"D-Did you just eat all the fried chickenâ€|?" muttered Gosei curiously.

>"You can treat us to a Christmas surprise another time" smiled Kiro

ignoring the question completely. All the other guildies had scattered off now to join in on battles and had completely forgotten about the prospect of food " they would come to regret it later. Gosei began packing his well-prepared treats back into a wicker basket
"Well I can't do another picnic, I don't have enough money to get this much food again." He said sadly
"Why not do an event?" replied Kironaka who was Lunar's professional at all things Event-related
"Kiro, I can't get cres or anything for something like that."
"You don't have to " It's just fun for everyone to get together and battle. Look around, that's what everyone seemed to gravitate toward when they got here.<p>

And with that, when Christmas got even closer Gosei hosted a Christmas Extravaganza event, which Laurie yet again did not attend because he was on holiday " both parties cried once more.

End
file.